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# Latin America Report

No. 2214



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## LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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BAHAMAS' PINDLING SAYS SHIP SINKING BY CUBANS DOES NOT AFFECT TIES

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 14 Oct 80 pp 1, 13

[Text]

PRIME Minister Pindling said Sunday that the sinking of the Defence Force vessel Flamingo in May "has not affected the relations between the government of Cuba and the government of the Bahamas."

Speaking to a select group of Miami Herald editors Mr Pindling said "the discussions between the two governments are going on with respect to settling the question of compensation. In the meantime the formal recognition, diplomatic recognition, that there has been, continues and is expected to continue unless there is serious cause to consider breaking it off. And that point hasn't been reached yet," he said.

Mr Pindling also said, that in his opinion, he thought that "in due course of time it will be recognised that Cuba will need to be afforded the same degree of recognition as any other government in the world is considered. And that recognition of a government does not signify approval of any of its systems, economic, social or religious."

He said there had been few fishing incidents involving Cuba over fishing rights, and the May 10 incident involving the Flamingo "would not have been a cause celebre had it not been for the fact that the patrol boat was sunk by the Cuban air force. In other words, that would have been a routine matter and dealt with routinely and nothing would have been heard."

But he said that the Cuban incident had at first given concern to the Bahamas government as to whether the Cuban government was about to initiate some other policy which was just becoming evident by reason of the action of their air force against the patrol craft.

Mr Pindling said that after it was explained to them the Cubans accepted the facts and "assured us that there was no change in their policy. That it was an error as is likely to happen at times and they offered to fully compensate for that error."

And he said from what had happened from May until the present "it seems that there will be a reasonable resolution of the question."

Mr Pindling declined to go any further, saying he "wouldn't want to prejudice the discussions one way or the other by raising any issue afresh right now."

In the May 10 incident to which the Prime Minister referred, two Cuban MiG fighters strafed and bombed the Defence Force vessel Flamingo near Cay Santo Domingo in the Ragged Island chain after it had arrested two Cuban fishing boats for illegally fishing in Bahamian waters. The Flamingo was sunk. As the Defence Force personnel swam for safety they were machine-gunned by the Cuban jets and four Bahamian marines were lost, their bodies never found.

## INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

### TREATMENT OF SALVADORAN EMIGRES IN MEXICO DISCUSSED

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 10 Sep 80 p 6

[Editorial: "More Salvadorans Detained in Mexico"]

[Text] According to reports from international agencies, in less than a month hundreds of Salvadorans have been arrested in Mexico, after leaving their native land--where dozens of people die weekly--for fear of being victims themselves of the indiscriminate violence.

Most of the emigres are women, adolescents and children, and conservative estimates put at more than 100,000 the number of Salvadorans who have left the country this year, with the usual disadvantages of migrants traveling by land. There are thousands among these who were able to obtain legal papers and similar numbers of the rural population who were compelled to look for the nearest border carrying only the clothing on their backs. They have left behind burnt and looted ranches and assassinated relatives and fellow countrymen. And from these castaways on the sea of blood, the immigration authorities of Guatemala, Mexico and the United States are demanding visas and passports.

Guatemala and Mexico have repeatedly said that the Salvadorans who have entered their territory are adventurers who "are looking for new horizons." The arrested have explained over and over again that they are not adventurers, but rather refugees with death at their heels.

Some say that they are being compelled to participate in terrorist activities or will be killed if they do not cooperate. Others say that they are persecuted by paramilitary organizations and many others leave pushed by panic. Anyway, the emigres leave behind violence and possible death.

These explanations would be valid for anyone who is aware of the disastrous truth and would be more than enough to move the strongest souls, since these are peaceful people, most of them leaving on orders from parents or spouses. Guatemalan, Mexican and American immigration authorities have been able to determine that the Salvadorans arrested do not have criminal records and that, on the contrary, they are all honest people who were studying or working or both. Their transit through Mexico and Guatemala is generally legal and arresting them is arbitrary and inhuman.

Observers say that the attitude of the Guatemalan authorities is understandable, since they are suffering from an escalation of terror like we are. However, the attitude of the Mexican authorities is not as understandable: They should identify with the Salvadoran people who are suffering in a desperate situation.

If only the attitude of the Mexican and American authorities would change and they would open the doors of their immense territories to the Salvadoran emigres, at least while this long and bloody calvary that the Salvadoran people are suffering lasts.

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COS: 3010

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CENTRAL AMERICAN PLANT DISEASE CONTROL GROUP ESTABLISHED

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 6 Oct 80 pp 1, 13

[Article by Miguel Franjul]

[Text] San Cristobal--Plant health experts from the five Central American nations and the Dominican Republic founded the Regional Association for Integral Disease Control here yesterday. The new organization asked these governments to impose taxes on toxic pesticides to discourage their increasing use.

The new organization includes representatives of Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Guatemala, for the Central American region, while the Caribbean area will be represented by Santo Domingo and possibly Haiti, which was invited to attend an event here for the study of the incidence of plant diseases in agriculture and the best methods of controlling them.

This event, sponsored by the embassy of the FGR through its Technical Cooperation Association (GTZ) and the secretariat of agriculture, adopted some resolutions after a week of explanation and debate.

The most outstanding are the following: establishment of a regional association to institutionalize and strengthen the joint system of disease control; intensification of studies of research on organisms to combat the most important diseases in all the member countries; and studies on international cooperation in this field.

Also, the imposition of selective taxes on highly toxic pesticides was recommended after a study of the impact they may have on the economy of the peasantry and the entire nation and, specifically, their effects on the environment.

Once the regional association was established, it recommended that "whatever effort is possible be made to ensure that an event of this type will be held every year for the clarification and exchange of knowledge, such that each country can eventually host seminars of this nature."

It was agreed to undertake a campaign to interest other countries such as Panama, Mexico, Venezuela and Cuba in joining and strengthening the association, and a commission was appointed for this purpose, and also to coordinate the holding of the next regional course on joint plant disease control.

The members of the commission are Manuel Cano of Guatemala, Alex May Montero of Costa Rica, Manuel Peralta Serrata of the Dominican Republic, Hector Manuel Himede of El Salvador, Julio Sequeira of Nicaragua and Meliton Cabrera of Honduras.

Sequeira will also serve as coordinator of the future activities.

Guillermo Villanueva, of the South Center for Agricultural Development (CESDA) in the Dominican Republic, the site of the regional course, bid the foreign and domestic delegates farewell in an address in the course of which he praised the broad and openminded discussion of the possible means of improving plant insect control.

He lauded any action with a view to the joint control of disease, in the conviction that it will contribute to "strengthening efforts resulting in the reestablishment of the ecological balance, which will benefit our rural citizens and enable them to reduce operational costs without affecting production and productivity levels."

Villanueva congratulated the coordinators of the course, experts Daxl, Naumann, Schmutterer, Sequeira and Villagran, and he expressed the desire that the discussions there will contribute "to creating a realistic mental picture of the importance of this discipline which is developing, without meeting resistance from the traditional theoreticians and treatise authors who have urged the use of other methods in our eternal struggle against the plagues which are the enemy of modern man."

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## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SURPLUS REPORTED FOR FIRST HALF OF 1980

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 24 Oct 80 p 1

[Text]

THE overall surplus of \$22.7 million in the country's balance of payments for the first half of this year was less than half the \$49 million achieved during the same period last year, the Central Bank reported.

"The balance of payments position as measured by the changes in the country's international reserves showed a surplus of \$10.6 million during the quarter under review," the bank's quarterly review for June reveals.

It said the overall surplus amounted to \$22.7 million for the first half of 1980, which was much lower than \$49 million achieved in the same period of 1979.

Despite substantial increases in payments for oil and non-oil imports, the current account showed a surplus of \$12.7 million, which was, however, lower than \$22.7 achieved in the corresponding period last year.

Imports of oil for local consumption amounted to \$87 million \$48.9 million or 56 per cent was for the bunkering of foreign ships and aircrafts and \$38.1 million or 44 per cent was for domestic consumption.

"The increase in imports of oil for local consumption of \$46 million was mainly attributed to a substantial

increase of \$30.6 million in the category of foreign bunkers," the bank quarterly review said.

It said the increase in domestic consumption was in the main, due to a rise in gas oil of \$8.1 million and motor gasoline of \$3.7 million.

The price of foreign bunkers per barrel for the second quarter of 1980 was \$36.31, an increase of \$21.58 over the price in the comparable period of 1979.

Gas oil per barrel increased by \$18.99 over the per barrel price of \$21.80 in 1979, and motor gasoline per barrel prices were up by \$13.70 over the per barrel price of \$27.15 in the corresponding period last year.

Data on the other merchandise trade showed that non-oil imports continued to rise mounting to \$11.4 million during the second quarter while exports increased marginally from \$42.8 million to \$47.2 million.

Inflows from tourists for the quarter were estimated at \$142.4 million compared with \$123.2 million for the same period last year.

In addition, \$3.2 million accrued to Government under transfer payments. Payments for travel were estimated at \$14.8 million, \$3.7 million more than in the second quarter of 1979.

The category "interest,

dividends and profits" recorded a net outflow of \$15.5 million for the quarter as compared with \$17.4 million in the corresponding period last year.

The outflow under "other" of \$23.5 million on account of remittances by offshore and other private companies more than offset the inflow by authorised dealers and trust companies of \$8.6 million.

Also, Government interest payments amounted to \$0.6 million.

The offshore companies' contribution to the economy more than doubled that of last year totalling \$35.4 million for the review period against \$15.8 million in the comparable period of 1979.

The net inflow on capital account for the second quarter was \$5.9 million as opposed to \$12.2 million during the same period last year.

Loans amounted to \$8.6 million and repayments, \$2.3 million. The net outflow on property purchase of \$0.6 million was because Bahamians purchased property from non-residents.

Other investment amounted to a net inflow of \$0.9 million.

And public corporations had borrowings to the extent of \$0.4 million, while Government had repayments totalling \$1.1 million.

## BRIEFS

OVERSEAS CONSTRUCTION MEETING--Minister for construction abroad Levi Farah has chaired in Santiago de Cuba a meeting to analyze the province's construction work force abroad. Party, ministry and labor officials participated in the meeting. Levi Farah underscored how important it was for construction workers going abroad to have the required qualifications and to observe the destination schedule. He said that there are thousands of Cubans working on social and economic projects in Angola, Libya, Ethiopia and other countries in both the Caribbean and Africa. He added that Cuba has contracts abroad exceeding 350 million pesos and that other contracts are being negotiated amounting to approximately 1 billion. [FL241730 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1514 GMT 24 Oct 80]

CSO: 3010

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

GUZMAN PRESIDES AT 10TH REUNION OF NAVAL CLASS

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 6 Oct 80 p 13

[Text] President Antonio Guzman urged the members of the 1970-74 class of naval officers to continue their work for the welfare of the fatherland and the armed branch.

The 22 officers present saluted the chief executive on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of their entry into the armed forces.

The ceremony, which took place in President Guzman's office, was attended by Lt Gen Mario Imbert McGregor, secretary of state of armed forces, and Vice Adm Francisco Amiana Castillo, chief of the general staff of the navy.

Others present were Maj Gen Pablo Garrido Medina, chief of the general staff of the Dominican Air Force, Maj Gen Virgilio Payano Rojas, chief of the national police, and Gen Miguel Alvarez Belen, deputy chief of the general staff of the army.

The members of the naval academy class are Lts Fabio A. Suarez Pena, Freddy Perez Sanchez, Rafael Bienvenido Arias Inoa, Esteban Negrete Olivares, Ramon Francisco Alburquerque, Ramon M. Golibart, Delfin Bautista Arias, Manuel Antonio Paredes Mejia, Felipe Perez Santana, Sergio Martinez, Camilo Nazir Tejada, Bienvenido Grullon Mendez, Ricardo Jimenez Salcedo, Leonidas, Mateo Oliva, Anibal Perdomo Prometa, Cesar De Wint Ruiz, Enrique Espino Jimenez, Rafael Lantigua Reyes, Julio Garcia Alies, Tomas Rodriguez Bido, Jose Matos Perez and Jose F. Rodriguez y Rodriguez (retired).

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## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

### INFLATION SEEN HURTING GROWING MIDDLE CLASS

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 4 Oct 80 p 14A

[Article by Bernardo Vega: "The Trials of the Dominican Middle Class"]

[Text] Until 1962 we Dominicans were either very rich (tutumpote) or very poor (the unfortunate). The members of the first group, although it was a squeeze, could all fit into the Embassy Club at the Hotel Ambassador and the Santiago Recreation Center, so few were they, although well padded. The unfortunates had the right to the free enjoyment of the rest of the landscape in our broad and picturesque national territory.

#### The Rise of Our Middle Class

The new model of economic growth and the political system we adopted beginning in 1962 nonetheless caused a third social group, the middle class, to develop, resulting from the process of industrialization and urbanization of our country and the speedy growth of the trade sector and services.

It was in particular after 1970 that this process became dynamic. The hundreds of Dominicans who went abroad to study beginning in 1962, returning in 1967-69 with diplomas as agronomers, engineers, economists, etc, served as the human base in the process of creating the new social class.

Their rapid rise was facilitated by the simple fact that in 1962, the country had four agronomers, two economists and three electrical engineers. The state, through the enterprises of the CORDE [Dominican Corporation of State Enterprises], the CEA [State Sugar Council], INAPA [National Institute of Waterworks and Sewage], Central Bank, CDE, etc, provided these young professional people with jobs. The private sector, for its part, through the process of industrialization involving the replacement of imports, encouraged by the industrial incentive law and the FIDE [Investment Fund for Economic Development], substantially increased the number of technicians and office employees in the country.

Other mechanisms favoring the rise of the middle class were the flourishing of commercial banks, financial institutions, mortgage companies and savings and loan associations, which simultaneously with requiring relatively sophisticated office employees, provided the long-term financing so that the new class could purchase its own housing and young businessmen, without substantial resources of their own, could obtain financing for their industrial projects.

Foreign investment (Falconbridge, Rosario, Nestle, Refineria, etc) and tourism created additional jobs for the new social stratum. The expansion of sugar production, through the settlement system above all, also promoted the rapid growth of the middle class. The conversion of broad military groups into businessmen and planters between 1974 and 1978 gave an unexpected new dimension to the phenomenon. The construction industry, public projects included, brought a wide range of engineers and builders into the new stratum.

The establishment of various universities and the expansion of that already in existence enabled a large complex of young professionals to become professors. Adding to this the doctors, the dynamism of the advertising business, the rise of trade (thanks to a policy of free imports) it is readily possible to see how our social structure underwent a very important change in some 15 years. The relative ease of social mobility here undoubtedly facilitated this process, as compared with other societies with almost insurmountable social barriers.

#### Implications of the Phenomenon

Political, economic and sociological implications of the emergence among us of a relatively broad middle class are extraordinary. From the economic point of view, this social stratum is characterized by a high propensity for consumption, above all of goods which are status symbols. It represents the motive force of "consumerism," especially for imported products.

A recent Central Bank study shows how the family consumption structure has been changing in the country as the income level rises. While the poor save nothing and have to spend all of their limited income on the satisfaction of their food and housing needs, the middle class members are the customers in the boutiques and for a series of imported products. The present high import levels for consumer goods other than food reflect this continuing demand by the new class. The development of restaurants, discotheques, moving picture theaters, etc, is also an index of the demand of the newly wealthy for services.

Politically, the middle class in general tends to be conservative. This is the case in the Dominican Republic as well, where our present middle class has the very special characteristic of being in the first generation, i.e. the parents of its members were poor people. In this connection it is a social group opposed to violent change.

#### Inflation and the Middle Class

Inflation is by definition the mechanism for worsening income distribution in a country par excellence. When there is inflation, the rich become richer and the poor poorer, with the gap between the two strata increasing. The rich, with capital earnings from inventories and properties and on the basis of their ability to invest in real values with the long-term resources obtained, increase their wealth thanks to inflation. Their cost increases are passed on to the consumer.

The peasant, to the extent that he consumes what he himself produces, can somewhat offset the effects of inflation. The worker, by means of strikes and

collective bargaining, has at least potentially the capacity to try to compensate for the effects of inflation somewhat.

The combination of inflation which is imported and of domestic origin, like that from which we Dominicans are suffering now, has its greatest impact precisely on the middle class.

In the case of the Dominican Republic we can then come to see special and important conclusions:

- 1) Despite the rise of the middle class, income distribution in our country has deteriorated rather than improved in the past 10 years.
- 2) At the present time, it is the middle class which is in the weakest position for defending itself against the harsh blows of inflation.
- 3) It is probable today that the recently developed middle class here, after just a few years of existence, is the most discontented social group, and this discontent could of course find political expression, despite the presumed conservatism believed to be characteristic of this group.

The middle class is usually regarded as a buffer for social pressures, a cushion between the numerous poor and the few rich, a safeguard against violent social change. In the Dominican case, this generation which is finding its very recently acquired social status diminished by a very real decrease in its purchasing power may well prove to be a fuse rather than a shock absorber, in which case this bourgeoisie would lose its modest charm, which is such that the most powerful classes today contemplate it with the satisfaction and affection of an artist admiring his well-wrought creation.

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JUNTA MEMBERS VISIT USULUTAN, DISCUSS PROBLEMS WITH PEOPLE

Private Enterprise Termed Important

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 9 Oct 80 p 28

(Text) Members of the Government Junta visited Usulután today in their swings through departments. Arriving towards midmorning were Jose Napoleon Duarte, Dr Jose Antonio Morales Erlich and Col Adolfo Arnaldo Majano, accompanied by the ministers of agriculture, justice, interior, education, public works and planning and the undersecretary of defense. The party consisted of other officials as well.

Dr Morales Erlich spoke initially on behalf of the junta at a meeting at the National Institute with authorities of the capital city and towns of Usulután Department, and he addressed himself to the inhabitants of the department, which is called the "breadbasket of the republic."

His speech dealt with the issue of the government's socioeconomic policy. He made the following comments, among others:

"Within this democratic, socioeconomic framework, private enterprise has a very important role to play in the future by taking part in reviving the economy with a fair balance so that private enterprise exists at all levels of production. This government is not taking everything away; it is streamlining production sectors so that output gets to all our people. Industry, trade and other domestic economic activities are going to have the chance to participate in the revolutionary process to build a new society in which all Salvadorans will share both the obligations and the benefits of progress."

Non-Marxist Revolution

Dr Morales Erlich later asserted:

"At this moment El Salvador is undertaking the first non-Marxist revolution in the Americas. We will not allow a good or bad political group to take up arms here and forcibly or violently impose its whims. We are battling against the establishment and totalitarian system in the country, and we are succeeding because the people are aware of our struggle and are with us, with their minds on a decent and happy future for all Salvadorans, a new destiny in which Marxist-Leninists and any other extremist group have no place."

For his part, Mr Duarte reiterated what Dr Morales said about the participation and importance of private enterprise in the government's future plans. He went on to say that the country is witnessing a conspiracy engineered by the two extremes, the left and the right, to gradually lead the people towards an uprising, but that the government would not allow this because it is aware of the tactics that they are employing and knows what they hope to do in the days to come; thus, it will be able to combat and defeat them wherever they might crop up.

#### Leftist Extremism Denounced

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 10 Oct 80 pp 3, 13, 19

[Text] Yesterday in Usulután, Jose Napoleon Duarte denounced the conspiracy against national security and the attacks on the Church, educators and other segments promoting development, attributing responsibility for them to the extreme left.

He deplored the attacks on radio station YSAX and the archbishopric and the murder of Father Manuel Antonio Reyes Monico, indicating that "this was a ploy by extremists to blame the government."

Duarte said that the government would not have to take similar action because its policy is one of a peaceful revolution, adding that the far left and right are the ones engaging in violence.

"We do not have to order killings, bombings, attacks and kidnappings," Duarte said, "because it is enough for us to give the people all that they have always struggled for...I want to make it clear," said the member of the Government Revolutionary Junta, "that the leftwing extremists are fostering chaos in the country by undertaking such things as attacks on the Church while suggesting that the government is to blame, in order to confuse the people."

Duarte underscored that the Salvadoran people already know what the far left is capable of and are familiar with its ploys, such as the recent attacks on the Church that were designed to make the government look responsible.

He then called on Catholics to calmly analyze the situation that extremists are leading our country towards.

He also appealed to the Church hierarchy not to let the extremist ploys take them by surprise, because their aim is general confusion.

He also pointed to instances of teachers whom leftwing and rightwing extremists murdered to make the government look responsible. He then reiterated that the government's best weapon is the process of changes, which the far left has not come to support, despite the repeated offers by the Government Revolutionary Junta, Duarte explained.

Jose Napoleon Duarte spoke yesterday during a visit to Usulután as a member of the Government Revolutionary Junta; he was accompanied by Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano and Dr Jose Antonio Morales Erlich.

## Junta Protest

The following communique was then made public:

"The Government Revolutionary Junta once again denounces and condemns the snuffing out of useful lives and the terrorist acts by far left and far right groups that are endeavoring to impede the establishment of the climate of peace and calm that the people are calling for.

"Politically frustrated by the grass roots repudiation of their subversive, terrorist activities, the extremist groups operating in the country have gotten to the brink of desperation.

"This is the conclusion that we reach in noting the crimes that these groups have committed in recent days, which have been marked by sadism, hatred, a desire for revenge, fanaticism and an absolute lack of ethics.

"Entire peasant families have been slain by the extremist mobs, just because they have refused to cooperate with their subversive activities.

"The people were stupefied when they learned of the brutal slaying of Maria Magdalena Henriquez, a member of the Human Rights Commission.

"The slanderous insinuations of the Marxist organizations notwithstanding, it is clear to any person who reasons without ideological extremism or fanaticism that the death of Miss Henriquez is conducive only to the political objectives of extremist segments that, in light of the in-depth changes being undertaken, are attempting at all costs to discredit the Revolutionary Government internationally.

"They then kidnaped and murdered Father Manuel Antonio Reyes Monico, who was the chaplain of the Salvadoran Air Force and a law student at Dr Jose Matias Delgado University in San Salvador.

"The clear-cut position and honesty of this priest, who worked on behalf of children, rule out any alleged ties with far leftwing groups.

"The case of San Jose Day School teachers Oscar Rene Romano Calderon and Rafael Antonio Santos Chavez, who were machinegunned to death in front of a crowd of Day School students, could not be a more eloquent illustration of the immorality of these criminal extremists.

"Educators Romano Calderon and Santos Chavez were engaged in their noble teaching efforts to complete the school year, despite the threats that small extremist groups have hurled at instructors and schools that have continued their work.

"They then added to their victims Professor Hildauro Martinez de Morales, the secretary of the Women's Movement of the Christian Democratic Party in Cabanas Department. She had worked for many years training children and youths, in addition to her struggles to achieve broader involvement for women in the development of our country and to make El Salvador a truly democratic society.

"But in its desire for revenge against the people the FDR has gone even further, and by threats and criminal actions its terrorist gangs are forcing the closure of health care centers or units in the interior of our country, thus taking away an essential service from the humblest segments of our society."

## EL SALVADOR

### UPD ISSUES DOCUMENT DESCRIBING OBJECTIVES

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 9 Sep 80 p 32

[Text] Representatives of the People's Democratic Unity (UPD), which was recently founded here, have held a press conference at the Alameda Hotel in this capital to report on their motives and objectives at this critical time for El Salvador.

It was learned that 14 groups form the UPD, with a total of approximately 100,000 workers and prospects for more people joining in the coming days. The list is as follows: Federation of Salvadoran Workers (CTS), whose representative is Jose Luis Grande; Latin American Workers Federation (CLAT), represented by Julio de Leon; PESINCONTRANS [Federation of Labor Unions of the Construction, Transportation and Allied Industries], represented by Felipe Antonio Zaldivar; Central American Unionist Party (PUCA), represented by Dr. Gabriel Pilona Araujo; Union of ISTA [Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation] Workers, represented by Ricardo Valdes; STPCAS; Organization of Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Workers, represented by Jose Saldana; Salvadoran Association of Ticket Agents; SIPCES; Eastern Federation of Salvadoran Workers; AGEPYM; SUTC; COOPYSIN (Federation of Workers, People's and Union Organizations); and the Confederation of Central American Workers (CTCA), represented by Francisco Saldana.

A document entitled "Declaration of Principles and Objectives of the UPD" was handed out to the press. Today we are publishing some ideas expressed in this document:

"As an absolute necessity for the large sector of the Salvadoran citizenship which has no voice or participation in the true and authentic process of change which the country needs without delay, and tired of so much repression and violence, the UPD has emerged as the highest organization incorporating important labor union organizations representing thousands of workers, as well as Salvadoran women--all having democratic tendencies, without commitments to any political party or government sector and opposed to the fascist and oligarchic system.

"The UPD is essentially created to defend labor demands within the framework of the law and to lay out the principles and objectives that will unify all the social sectors struggling perseveringly in search of better solutions so that the country might follow or return to the state of law and order and to the mainstream of political, economic and social democracy, without dogmatism or sectarianism.

"Within these broad guidelines, the UPD takes the patriotic initiative to open the way for all social sectors to exchange ideas. This dialogue is not the only alternative but it is the most beneficial and incorporates the common objective, which is to follow the path of peace, unity among the people, solidarity and social justice to create a pluralist, free and democratic government that represents all the social sectors--a government that is not a single-party government; a government without imperialist interventions, whatever their origin or political ideology. The country's problems must be laid out and solved by Salvadorans, even if this means tremendous sacrifice."

Later on the document states that the members retain their own structures; that the UPD considers that as long as the political problem is not solved, the crisis will increase; that on the basis of the proclamation, the Armed Forces, warrantors of the Constitution, are asked to: 1) create a government formed by progressive and democratic elements representative of the people; 2) repeal the state of siege and emergency; 3) stop the repression and persecution of politicians and union leaders; 4) define its position with respect to the reopening of the university; and 5) repeal Decree 296.

Finally, political, social, economic and cultural demands are set forth.

9341

CSO: 3010

PURPOSE OF NICARAGUAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT CRITICIZED

Nicaragua's 'Hypocrisy' Pointed Out

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Oct 80 p 7

[Editorial: "Concerning a Visit"]

[Text] Today, there was been an announcement of the visit to Honduras paid by the Nicaraguan foreign affairs minister, Miguel D'Escoto, who was a priest of the Catholic Church before devoting himself full time to politics.

With that period of his life wherein he was engaged in administering sacraments left behind, the Nicaraguan government official still retains the title of priest, better known among our people as "father."

It has been learned that the Nicaraguan Bishops Conference, headed by Monsignor Miguel Obando y Bravo, has issued a pastoral letter in which it calls upon Father D'Escoto, as well as his companion Ernesto Cardenal and other priests involved in public administration in the neighboring country, to withdraw from the regime and return to their pastoral activity.

To date, it is not known whether the aforementioned individuals will obey the mandate from the bishops. In the event that they disregard the appeal which is (to put it bluntly) an order, it is possible that both the Nicaraguan Catholic hierarchy and the Roman Curia will examine the matter and end up dissociating them from their priestly function, in view of the obvious deformation that their Church activity has suffered.

In any event, and regardless of what course of action is taken by these priest-politicians, it is important for the Honduran public to reflect on what the visit of the Nicaraguan minister means to our people.

At the outset of the reckoning, it is a political act.

The government of the neighboring country obviously cannot attempt to ignore a state with which it shares a common border.

Nicaragua can disregard what they think of its government in Australia, Chile or South Africa.

But it cannot do the same with Honduras and Costa Rica. They are too close to be ignored.

Now then, what has the position of our neighbors been thus far with regard to the people and government of Honduras?

During the time of Somoza, the opposition and, quite specifically, the journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro (may God bless him), attacked Honduras because of the fact that we had a military regime which clearly maintained relations, even of an intimate type, with the dynasty.

One of the military chiefs who misgoverned this country the longest invited Somoza on more than one occasion, and maintained close contacts with him to the point of becoming related by marriage.

That personage was later eliminated from the power structure, but the ill will was already created; and it continued.

Despite the fact that we Hondurans gave refuge to the Sandinists, and assisted them in more than one way, and apart from the fact that they were offered food and shelter, up until now the military group ruling Nicaragua has evinced a marked, overt hostility toward our country.

One slight detail attests clearly to this: Mr D'Escoto recently addressed the General Assembly of the United Nations on his country's foreign relations.

He called several countries, including some governed by leftist groups in the Caribbean, "fraternal nations." He omitted Honduras completely.

Nicaraguan radio is constantly launching attacks against our country.

Honduras is accused of giving asylum to ex-Somozans. It is forgotten that, in the past, asylum was given to the Sandinists. And every time there is an opportunity to foment an aggressive incident, the Nicaraguan troops take advantage of it, maintaining an atmosphere of fear on the border.

With matters in this state, what can we expect from the visit by the Nicaraguan official?

Without doubt, a diplomatic offensive aimed at making us believe that the Nicaraguan regime not only has nothing to do with Marxism, but also is a friend of Honduras.

We are an honest people, sometimes even naive; but everything has a limit.

And in the case that concerns us, we must treat the visitor intelligently and courteously. But we must not succumb to the foolishness of believing that the gratuitous hatred dispensed to us by the leftist regime in the neighboring country has disappeared with the stroke of a pen.

An old Spanish proverb says that "fools do not even enjoy God." And the wisdom of popular sayings has been confirmed to the point of satiety. So, let us open our arms, but our eyes as well. Let us not, one of these days, experience an unpleasant surprise such as those we have had in the past, which have jeopardized our very existence as a nation.

## D'Escoto's 'Belligerent' Attitude Scored

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Oct 80 p 7

[Editorial: "With the Sword and the Laurel"]

[Text] When the Nicaraguan foreign minister, Miguel D'Escoto, arrived in Tegucigalpa, on what one assumes was a good will visit, we imagined that the priest-diplomat (a man who has straddled between the religious life and the worldly din) would come with the laurel of peace in his consecrated hands, and not with an accusation on the tip of his tongue against the military of the country which was offering him the best of receptions.

Without bothering with euphemisms, and hence deliberately, Father D'Escoto uttered some statements which, if the Honduran foreign minister had made them in Managua, would surely have been a virtual "casus belli" [cause of war], or at least reason for exacerbating the differences between a country which is taking giant steps toward a system that is not exactly democratic and another which is bent on not pursuing that path.

We thought that the seraphic presence of Minister D'Escoto would have a far more positive effect. But no; violating all the fundamental rules of courtesy, and setting aside diplomatic protocol, he engaged in directing poison darts against the Honduran military, accusing them of being "Somozans," the greatest stigma that exists today in the unfortunate land of Dario.

Why is it that these celibates meddling in politics have to sow discord every time they refer to Honduras? Because we remember the poet and priest, Ernesto Cardenal, who was recently given an award by the booksellers of Frankfurt, Germany, and who, every time he had to discuss the refugees from his country that were with us at the height of civil war, said that they were living in subhuman conditions, such as those in concentration camps; whereas the fact is that, if they were not in luxury hotels, they at least had a safe place and a mouthful to eat.

The ineffable Miguel has come to Honduran territory itself to accuse our military of a plan that the Holy Inquisition would have liked. He forgets that these men, with all the pressure they could have had in their time, maintained the principle of nonintervention in the private affairs of the Nicaraguans, and that our country, if it was used for anything, served as a refuge for many Sandinist militants who came in search of assistance from those who considered the anti-Somoza cause their own.

No one said anything when a "committee of solidarity with the people of Nicaragua", which was engaged in collecting funds, was formed here. There was silence, and even a certain official complicity because, strictly speaking, nonintervention includes both the government and the subjects; and, in this case, there was an arrogant disregard for the actions which served to aid the Sandinists in their struggle.

Possibly, if the idea of seeking aid for Somoza had occurred to any individual or institution, then everyone would have been enraged at "that Honduran interference,"

because that is the way things are at present. Solidarity is a principle reserved exclusively for causes sponsored by the nondemocratic left.

We do not understand the type of diplomacy practiced by the priest D'Escoto who, on the one hand, says that he has come with the laurel of peace and, on the other, displays without concealment the belligerent, accusing and harsh sword against the men in uniform of Honduras.

We think that Nicaragua wants a system different from what they call socialism. That is all very well, because if the Nicaraguans want to live or die with that dogma, it is their problem, not ours. What we cannot understand is why he would attempt, without any discretion and rapidly, to interfere in our affairs, and cheerfully ask that the military whom he considers Somozan be stripped of their uniforms.

First of all, insofar as we know, there has been no division between Somozans and Sandinists among the members of our armed institution. That would be all right for the "Nicas," but not for Hondurans. Then, once the present government became established in the neighboring country, with the cooperation of Jimmy Carter, Carlos Andres Perez, Rodrigo Carazo, Jose Lopez Portillo and others who set aside Estrada doctrines of non-intervention and as many international conventions to give way to the Sandinists, Honduras observed a conduct which has been proper in its relations with the Nicaraguans.

If we have had to take in the refugees who arrived, it has been to fulfill a basic obligation of humanity toward political refugees who have had to leave their native soil; because the Hondurans did not exactly tell those people to come here. In spite of everything, and our needs, we did not hesitate to feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty, as Holy Mother Church commands, a Church of which one assumes the priest from the Maryknoll Order is a faithful follower.

Now then, does the father want us, in order to be on good terms, to order all the officers into retirement, and become filled with revolutionaries of a new type, so that we may make common cause with the Sandinists?

The Reverend D'Escoto should understand that each in his own home and God in everyone's home is a golden rule for good relations among peoples. Anything else is pure demagoguery, a desire to irritate and to foist the blame on the Hondurans for the misfortunes of the unlucky Nicaraguan people, who emerged from the flames only to fall into the fireplace.

1909

550: 3010

## BRIEFS

PCM AGAINST GISCARD, RPR--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Martinique (PCM), in referring to the coming presidential election, proposes "to wage a great political battle against the Giscardian colonial government-RPR [Rally for the Republic] in order to advance the idea of Martinique's responsibility and its nationalist demands." It calls for "militant abstention" in order to "demonstrate its determination to raise the level of the liberation struggle in Martinique." This is the first time that communists in Martinique have so clearly underlined their differences with the French Communist Party on the eve of an important election. In 1969, they supported the candidacy of Jacques Duclos and in 1974, that of Francois Mitterrand, the only opposition candidate. In the 10 June 1979 European election, they voted for the list headed by Georges Marchais. The decision of the PCM is in keeping with the new strategy drawn up on the occasion of the Seventh Congress of the party, which hardened its position in order to fight for an autonomous people's democratic state. [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Oct 80 p 11] 11,464

CSO: 3100

STEEL AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN WORTH 9.3 BILLION PESOS

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 11 Oct 80 p 14

[Article by Maria Elena Lopez Segura]

[Text] Mexico and Japan have recently signed a steel forging and smelting agreement that will entail investments of 6 billion pesos and create 2,000 jobs, as well as a 3.3 billion peso large-diameter piping agreement, the Japanese ambassador Nobuo Matsunaga, reported.

He announced that the negotiations on the large-diameter piping would conclude shortly. In this regard, the secretary of patrimony and industrial development, Jose Andres Oteyza, asserted that this is not just another project; it is qualitatively important because it sets the guidelines for Mexico's industrialization over the last two decades of this century.

He also gave assurances that Japanese industry and the Japanese Government are firmly determined to cooperate so that the projects can be implemented as soon as possible and play a decisive role in our country's capital goods self-sufficiency.

Business Meeting

He then reported that the 12th Plenary Meeting of the Mexico-Japan Business Committee would be held from 13 to 15 October in Tokyo. It will be attended by a Mexican delegation of more than 100 high-level representatives, including the head of PEMEX [Mexican Petroleum], Jorge Diaz Serrano. The ambassador indicated that PEMEX is not in Japan to hammer out any agreement on oil sales. "We are aware that it is not possible at the moment to boost exports to our country, and we respect Mexico's production ceiling," he said.

The meeting will analyze the situation and outlook for the two economies, the current trade status, joint ventures, technological cooperation and the energy issue.

Oil

As we know, PEMEX has been exporting 100,000 barrels of crude oil a day to Japan since October, a supply level that had been scheduled for the end of the year but that was moved up. Thus, we are highly satisfied, the ambassador said, because it is important to diversify our sources of energy during these times of world energy crisis.

Japan gets 16 percent of its petroleum from Iran and Iraq and also imports oil from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Indonesia. Some 70 percent of the energy it consumes comes from abroad, and therefore its situation was greatly alleviated by the Mexican crude oil supplies arriving ahead of schedule.

Referring specifically to the war in the Middle East, he said that if the United States or the Soviet Union intervened in the Persian Gulf region, the conflict would result in a third world war, and therefore all countries must strive to convince Iran and Iraq to put down their arms.

In conclusion, he commented on the speech that President Lopez-Portillo delivered yesterday in the presence of the prime minister of New Zealand. He said that his country shares the Mexican chief executive's view in appealing to the world to prevent a world conflagration, and he pointed out that Japan is conversing with the two warring nations in a bid to get them to stop fighting.

8743

CSO: 3010

SPAIN HOPES FOR MORE MEXICAN OIL

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 11 Oct 80 p 14

[Article by Maria Elena Lopez Segura]

[Text] The joint efforts of PEMEX [Mexican Petroleum] and the Spanish company Petronor will not be able to resolve the current energy crisis prompted by the war in the Middle East, because what is needed is crude, not refined oil, Spain's ambassador to Mexico, Eduardo Pena Abizanda, has asserted.

In a brief interview at the embassy, he indicated that the possible increase from 15 to 34 percent in Mexico's share in Petronor does not imply that cooperation between the two enterprises can resolve the current crisis, because what is needed is the raw material.

Nevertheless, an increase in the Mexican share in one of the world's largest refineries, located in the port of Bilbao, means that Spain will be able to develop its petrochemicals industry and readily distribute Mexican products of all kinds throughout the globe.

He pointed out that Mexico has shown its trust in Spain by choosing to invest in its petroleum industry, inasmuch as other nations had requested that it do likewise. Our second major triumph, he said, was Mexico's decision to buy 34 percent of the company's shares.

He indicated that this oil trade is vital to his country because it made most of its crude oil purchases in the Middle East, which brought a great many problems.

Mexico, in contrast, is a secure supply source, he asserted, and the current import level of 15 percent could easily hit 20.

He pointed out that although for the time being Spain has not asked Mexico to boost its oil exports there, this does not mean that such a request might not be forthcoming in the future, because the war between Iran and Iraq has deprived Spain of 20 percent of its total oil imports.

As far as the international situation is concerned, he said that democratic nations should form a strong bloc against hegemonies and struggle for peace.

Furthermore, he noted that trade with Mexico has greatly contributed to Spain's development, because increased exports to our country and more investment by its companies here have added much to Spain's economy.

Thus, Mexico is becoming Spain's number one trading partner in Latin America, a standing that Argentina now holds. In view of the increase in bilateral trade, however, Mexico will surely take over first place in 2 years.

In 1980, he asserted, trade will total \$800 million, and he emphasized that Mexico is the number one target country for Spanish investment, which goes into several fields of industry.

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CSO: 3010

PEMEX SPONSORS INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONFERENCE

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 4 Oct 80 p 9-A

[Text] Changes in the world outlook in the fields of the economy, energy and international development affect each and every one of the nations on the globe. In light of this, we can assert that economies no longer have borders.

Thus, PEMEX [Mexican Petroleum], in conjunction with the Mexican Petroleum Institute, has begun a series of high-level conferences entitled "Economy, Energy and Development." Participating in them are renowned national and international experts, who are assessing and analyzing the main current economic trends, their relationship to and effects on the energy question and their impact on the various aspects of national development. This assessment of the world landscape will provide PEMEX directors with a valid decision-making tool.

The participants at this series of high-level conferences are: Rafael Izquierdo, adviser to the president of the republic; Dr Jacob Zahavi, head of the Department of Energy Models at the Stockholm School of Economics; Morris A. Adelman, president of MIT; Yoshihiko Ono, member of the Council of Science of Japan; Victor L. Urquidi, president of the Colegio de Mexico; Cesari Martini, president of the International Relations Institute of Italy, and Jean Peron, vice president of the French Energy Institute.

The "Economy, Energy and Development" conferences will be held at the PEMEX auditorium from 7 October to 27 November and will be opened by Jorge Diaz Serrano, the director general of PEMEX.

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CSO: 3010

## MEXICO

### WEST GERMAN INVESTMENTS DISCUSSED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 6 Oct 80 p 4-B

[Text] Mexico is now the number three Latin American country in terms of direct, private investment from the FRG.

According to statistics from the FRG Economy Ministry, more than 800 million German marks are invested in Mexico, with an annual growth rate of over 4.4 percent.

Investment totaled 766.1 million German marks in 1978, rising to some 800 million by 1979, and there will be a major increase for the figure in 1980.

The FRG is the number two foreign investor in Mexico, trailing only the United States, and among Latin American countries with German investment, Mexico now holds third place.

Investment is mainly in such branches as vehicle construction, 452.4 million German marks; the chemical industry, 105 million; electrical engineering, 75.4 million; machinery construction, 30 million; pharmaceuticals, 24.5 million, and the leather industry, 15.5 million.

8743

CSO: 3010

**MEXICO**

**SALAMANCA-LEON GAS PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN NOVEMBER**

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 8 Oct 80 pp1-F, 4-F

[Text] Celaya, Guanajuato (OEM)--Construction work on the Salamanca-Irapuato-Silao-Leon gas pipeline, which will cost 250 million pesos, will be inaugurated by the director general of PEMEX [Mexican Petroleum], Jorge Diaz Serrano, next 3 November.

This was reported by the governor of Guanajuato, Enrique Velasco Ibarra, who added that the pipeline would bring an indispensable service for further manufacturing to the state's entire industrial corridor.

The city of Celaya has practically all of the needed infrastructure, since the line passes through the municipality, and thus the prospects of fuel supplies look quite good.

Early next month, Diaz Serrano will be in this city to inaugurate the major industrial project, which will complement the industrial infrastructure for important municipalities in the state.

The Guanajuato governor clarified that scheduled PEMEX investments might be boosted, since the costs of materials and manpower are subject to constant increases.

This project is considered a major incentive that Guanajuato is offering to investors, who now have the chance to establish themselves in this area.

There is room for large companies, which, in turn, will generate jobs for a great many residents of Guanajuato.

In conclusion, the governor hailed the PEMEX gas pipeline that will be furnishing this fuel to the most important municipalities in Guanajuato.

8743

CSO: 3010

**BORGE GIVES DETAILS OF PLOT UNCOVERED IN BLUEFIELDS**

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Oct 80 pp 1, 5

[Text] The most extensive counterrevolutionary plot known to date, including the Bluefields incidents, was disclosed at a press conference by the minister of interior, Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge.

Commander Borge explained at length to native and foreign newsmen the Bluefields incidents and their connection with the counterrevolutionary plot of former GN [National Guard] Col Bernardino Larios, the multinationals, some leaders of religious sects and a Spanish diplomat.

The press conference was attended by Guerrilla Commanders Lenin Cerna and Walter Ferreti, first and second in command of the General Directorate of State Security, respectively.

The information released by the minister of interior, Commander Borge, was confirmed by Wesley Hernan Savery Harrison, who was introduced to the newsmen and who said that he was one of the main ringleaders of the FAD and the one responsible for the incidents in Bluefields, where he headed the entire movement and was arrested a week ago.

Wesley Hernan, who has been battling for about 13 years to divide the Atlantic Coast from the rest of the country, claimed that he met with Bernardino Larios on three occasions, and on the second was named head of the FAD in that area, and made responsible for the Bluefields incidents.

Commander Borge stated that, for several years, an organization called the Indian, Negro and Creole Committee has been operating in that area, with separatist interests, its top-ranking leader being Hernan, who was appointed by Larios to take charge of organizing counterrevolutionary activities there.

**They Met in Managua**

The meetings of those heading the counterrevolution were held in the house of Colonel Larios and his cousin, Hugo Larios, in Managua. According to statements made by Hernan himself, at those same meetings they agreed to organize a plan of a separatist type on the Atlantic Coast, which would be aimed at destroying the revolutionary state and the Sandinist Front.

Those meetings were attended by Jose Vilchez, Hugo Morales, who was known as "David Hermoso," and Bernardino Larios, who admitted to being the chief of FAD; and at them, according to Comdr Tomas Borge, they disclosed their aims of overthrowing the revolutionary government. To do so, they had to plan and coordinate their activities very well, with backing from the United States Marines, Somozan guards in Honduras and the prisoners whom they would release in advance to combat the Sandinist Popular Army and to appoint a counterrevolutionary government of which Bernardino and Hernan would be members.

#### The General Plan

Still according to Hernan's statements, the general counterrevolutionary plan consisted of kidnapping the nine members of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, and subsequently assassinating them.

A total of 130 men would be used, and some were to be sent from the coast. They would seize the barracks and their commanders, and would release all the Somozan prisoners to combat the Sandinist Popular Army; the Somozan guards who escaped to that country when they were defeated by our people would enter via the northern border.

The date for carrying out this plot was to be 19 July, the date of the first anniversary of the revolutionary victory, but it failed, and was moved to 23 August, the day marking the completion of the literacy campaign; that failed, too, and it was changed to a few days before the arrest of Bernardino by our state security revolutionary forces.

#### The Weapons and the Money

An individual named Jose Vilchez was to send the weapons, consisting of 25 M-16s and 25 Galils. The shipment would be made by boat on a site near the Atlantic Coast.

The money was to be collected by several persons. COSEP (Higher Council of Private Enterprise) would give them 2.5 million cordobas to purchase weapons, but it did not give them that sum; and \$105,000 was to be given by an American with the surname Thornton, who arrived from abroad, leaving it at Bluefields, and promising to send the Marines in Panama to back the movement.

The plan also called for Hernan to leave for Honduras, where he would collect weapons and contact a Colonel Bermudez to coordinate the action and to incorporate some of the Waspan militias. He was unable to make the trip to Honduras, because the Ministry of Culture appointed him to conduct some investigations at Laguna de Perlas, which he never did.

As part of the plot, the pretext of separating the Atlantic Coast from the rest of the country was to be used to set the population of that sector against the revolutionary government; and for that purpose, they would raise the banner of anticommunism and the expulsion of the Cubans who are working in the rural areas on a voluntary basis.

#### The Plan on the Coast

The share of the Atlantic Coast in the plot involved the kidnapping of the Guerrilla Commanders William Ramirez and Lumberto Campbell (a native of that area), the minister

and vice minister of development of the Atlantic Coast, respectively. This action was to be led by Weisler.

They attacked the Bluefields command, an action which they carried out confiscating 11 M-52 rifles and two carbines. In the Bluefields incidents, the counterrevolutionaries attacked several government officials, including one female comrade and two members of the Municipal Junta, putting a rope around their necks.

#### The Leaders

The top-ranking leaders of the Atlantic Coast counterrevolutionary movement are for the most part religious pastors who, using the excuse that the revolutionaries are atheists and that there are some Cubans present working in the rural areas, intended to arouse the populace against our revolutionary government. They are: Wesley Hernan Savery Harrison; Ricardo Jackson, second in command of the FAD on the Coast, who was to be responsible for seizing the Bluff and Corn Island, and later Puerto Cabezas; Teofilo Archivald, another counterrevolutionary leader on the Coast, a clergyman responsible for recruiting people for the Bluefields uprising; Charles Morris, a clergyman, who was a courier among the people on the Coast; Bernardino Larios and Reverend Allen. Also implicated was the Pentacostal clergyman Gellan Dance, and Jenny Hodson, separatists from the Coast; an individual with the surname Vance; Winnie Narciso, a separatist; Eduardo Panty; Joseph Smith; Elias Vega; Rosendo Hooker; Graciela Gatt; Mariano Acevedo; Jake Passar; a Reverend Wilson; and others.

#### They Tried To Make Contact With Dimas

In his statement, Hernan said that he tried to connect the entire movement with the criminal activities being carried out in the Honduras border area by the counterrevolutionary "Dimas," but he did not succeed.

He also said that, in the event that any of the ringleaders "perished," it was already decided who would take command.

#### The Command Was in Conflict

Hernan also stated that, on one occasion, Oscar Larios, Bernardino's cousin and the owner of the California Dry Cleaning establishment, had to replace Bernardino because he was too slow. Oscar Larios sought asylum in the Honduran Embassy a few days ago, and when requesting asylum said that he was from the FAD Staff.

The minister of interior, Comdr Tomas Borge, said that the majority of the main ringleaders of this great plot of the counterrevolution have been jailed, but there are some who are at large; and if they return, they will also be caught like their friends. With what has been described, the FAD has been virtually exterminated, and soon more of its members will be caught.

It was announced at the press conference that yesterday Kennedy Hodgson, one of the top-ranking heads of the movement on the Coast, was captured, and will be introduced to newsmen at the proper time. The same thing was said of Hugo Morales, who was manager of Didatsa, and who exposed the activities of the commercial attache of the

Spanish Embassy in Nicaragua, Vicente Vasquez, who travels in a car with license plates CD-114.

Hernan said that he had not been mistreated in jail, and that he felt rather as if he were at a university. He also claimed that he now realizes that they were completely mistaken.

2909

CSO: 3010

## HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD IN COUNTRY PRAISED

### CIDH Visit Welcomed

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 12 Oct 80 p 3

[Editorial: "The CIDH Visit"]

[Text] Only a revolution which places the individual in the center of history and makes respect for all rights a principal standard for its government administration can afford to invite the CIDH [Inter-American Human Rights Commission] to make an extensive tour of its country and observe the status of human rights. Not even the detractors of Sandinism can repudiate this undeniable fact; because there is no precedent of governments on the continent inviting the CIDH to visit their nations as Nicaragua has done. On the contrary, what exists are outrageous instances such as that of the Salvadoran gorillas who, disguised as "democrats," are murdering those who are struggling for human rights in their country, and refuse to allow the CIDH to visit. The same thing holds true for Guatemala.

But in Nicaragua things are different. Before leaving, the members of the CIDH acknowledged the extensive facilities offered them by the government to tour the country and interview whomever they wished.

We shall have to find out about their report later, and we have no doubt that it will contain valuable recommendations to our government for improving the overall system of human rights protection. And would that, as its chairman, Mr Farer, stated, it would arrange financial aid for health, housing and educational programs which are areas wherein we need support to bring about the assertion of the rights of the vast majorities who have been trampled upon in the past by the exploiting minorities.

Those same minorities reflected in reactionary parties and the news media in their service played a pathetic, ridiculous role while the CIDH was in Nicaragua. They all set out to create a political atmosphere which would give the impression that human rights were not respected in Nicaragua.

There was even an instance of radio media manipulating human feelings, engaged in broadcasting the weeping of mothers and children of the Somoza prisoners, making them believe that they would thereby solve the problem of their parents. The Social Christians, desperate because of their lack of political clientele, were

not ashamed to set themselves up as proponents of the Somozan cause. LA PRENSA, with its hypocritical theatricality, did the impossible to convince people that censorship had been imposed. And there was even a businessman who launched an attack against the CDS [Sandinist Defense Committees] in the State Council, claiming that they were violating human rights.

After all, what can be expected from the class which has lost its privileges forever?

Its very opportunism served to show the members of the CIDH how these sectors mobilize, act and express their views freely in the country. That is what the revolution is like.

### Accomplishments Since Revolution

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 14 Oct 80 p 3

[Text] "How much freedom do the millions of unemployed in the capitalist countries have? In these countries, one cannot talk about a real exercise of the right to work and to social security. Particularly in the present crisis, it is impossible to have these basic human rights fulfilled. For 10 years, 25 million people have been out of work, and another 25 million have been doomed to work reduced periods of time." From the newspaper LE FIGARO.

The visit by the International Human Rights Commission to our country has become the main topic on the pages of the various newspapers. For some, it was an opportunity to "become intransigent proponents of human rights;" for others, it was an occasion for resuming old, hackneyed discussions of how and to what extent the legal standards are upheld in our country.

For the revolutionary government and its vanguard, it was an opportunity to confirm to the world that we are experiencing a revolutionary process of deepseated changes, and that there is no attempt to conceal the reality, but rather to show to the international agencies these changes, whom they are benefiting and the limitations which we inherited from a dependent capitalist socioeconomic system.

The issue of human rights has been traditionally manipulated by political groups and trade union associations opposed to the revolutionary process. We have observed the manipulation every day, based on situations which are actually insignificant but which assume unbelievable dimensions in the news media. It is not rare for an isolated incident to become generalized, for an individual instance to become a "theory," for an administrative mistake on the part of a police comrade to cause a raising of banners and for respect for human rights to be demanded by the "owners of businesses."

Keeping up the discussion of whether or not human rights are being respected in the exclusive area of legal affairs is succumbing to the provocation of the "champions of bourgeois democracy." It means accepting an academic discussion which could result in countless articles for or against, but which would in no way change the present conditions of the Nicaraguan workers.

Human rights are not a result of the desires of a political group, a chamber of commerce or the whim of an international agency; in our country, their promotion and defense are the result of a revolution.

Human rights in Nicaragua are called: organization, popular participation, social wages, supplies, housing and employment.

We claim that they are called organization, because in the past the workers were denied the right to organize into unions to protect their interests. The history of the rural and urban workers is filled with political action by the union organization and repression as a response. Today, the capacity for organization and collective bargaining obtained by the working class is unprecedented in history.

One of the most significant rights which has just recently been exercised in our country is called: participation in administrative management.

This is a right which has never appeared in the articles of the "bourgeois humanists," a right omitted from their editorials, and never mentioned in their speeches. The historical significance of the workers' participation can by no means be evaluated. This may be the reason that it is not mentioned, and that an attempt is made to conceal it. In this way, an attempt has been made to change this conquest, in the name of the rights of the Somozan prisoners, who also have the right to be tried by the people's courts.

The short list of historic claims of our people which we cited previously is destined to grow and develop, in accordance with the revolutionary process. But it should be noted that those who are talking about human rights now are no guarantee to insure the continuity of what has been achieved, nor to protect the interests of the workers.

The responsibility for insuring and developing the demands that have been met can only be safe in the hands of the organized workers, and in the leadership of their revolutionary vanguard. The main force for change lies in the rural and urban workers. But who is protecting the millions of workers in the capitalist countries from the brutality of the imperialist power apparatus and from bourgeois injustice?

2909

CSO: 3010

SPECIAL TRIBUNALS COORDINATOR WELCOMES CIDH VISIT

Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 13 Oct 80 p 9

[Text] "While the pseudodemocratic governments of Bolivia, Guatemala, El Salvador and others have placed obstacles against the visit of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission (CIDH), Nicaragua has opened its doors wide and has invited those jurists to examine the status in which they find human rights in our country, with the view that such a visit will be of sound benefit to the consolidation of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process."

According to the general coordinator of the Special Tribunals of Justice, Comrade Mario Mejia Alvarez, the visit made by the CIDH to Nicaragua is an event which transcends our borders and becomes part of the history of Latin America.

Comrade Mejia remarked: "The CIDH's visit is another convincing reality attesting to the great transformation which has been under way in Nicaragua since 19 July of last year. Previously, during the time of the dictatorship, only obstacles were offered to this kind of commission, and the very rejection of those missions was another violation of human rights."

"Now, it is quite the contrary. We have nothing to hide, and the delegations from international organizations such as CIDH, Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists have found among us the greatest receptiveness. We have offered them the best conditions for doing their work in all its breadth."

"And there is something else: the CIDH's visit has materialized at the behest of our country's revolutionary authorities, who are thereby giving a real, objective response to those who, chiming in with the enemies of our revolution, are going around saying that there are violations of human rights here."

"In the international realm, the foes of our process have already met with a flat refutation of their claims in the very refusal to admit CIDH expressed by governments which, to those slanderers, are examples of democracy, such as El Salvador and Guatemala, to name only countries within the Central American area. The members of the Commission are more than well aware of the great restrictions placed on their entry in the past and present, into Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Haiti and Bolivia."

Necessary Comparison

Comrade Mejia then went on to say that the members of CIDH would gain very valuable experience from their visit to revolutionary Nicaragua, because they could compare

the present state of human rights with the experience which the same Commission had when it visited our country during the period of the dictatorship.

The subject of our interview stressed: "Although it is true that, on that occasion, the Commission's report only mentioned the rights inherent in the physical person, it is also true that the members of the Commission, in their comments, cited the reality that our country was experiencing in the areas of education, health, nutrition, housing, etc. Now, 15 months after the victory of the revolution, they will take with them the total picture of a complete change, which was made possible only by the Sandinist Popular Revolution.

"Because, as many authors of treatises have remarked, human rights should not be confined merely to the rights of the physical person, but should also include the basic rights which must meet the needs of the human being as a group, as a society and as a people."

#### From the Trenches to Power

"I repeat, we have nothing to hide and the Commission knows (as Comdr Tomas Borge said) that our revolution went from the trenches to power. This means that we are involved in a process which has been forging ahead with great internal limitations and many external obstacles. This means that we are by no means seeking to be perfect, because there are issues which cannot be resolved overnight. Therefore, we leave it to the conscience of any observer to form whatever judgment he wants of our country, making the observation, concerning it, that it was not until after 19 July 1979 that this republic began to be constructed in all aspects."

Comrade Mejia noted: "This reconstruction has been both material and moral. In the latter respect, we want to undertake the reconstruction of the judicial branch which will be no means be a continuation of the administration of justice that was practiced under Somoza.

"That was a judicial aberration. Justice was administered on a familial level, and from the appointment of a judge to the selection of the defenders in a court, it had to be controlled down to the last detail by the family which exercised power in this country.

"Now, the revolution has granted total autonomy to the judicial branch. Our government has complete confidence in its courts, and there is not happening what was a daily occurrence during the tyranny, when the tyrant, mistrusting even his own bosom friends, forced the military courts to try civilians, so as to guarantee the results further still."

#### The Special Courts

Mario Mejia declared: "Our revolution is making the people participants in the administration of justice. A specific example is our Special Tribunals, which guarantee defendants a legal trial, the right to defense, a review of their case, freedom to express themselves before the Tribunals and the respect that is due them under the prison system."

With regard to the plan for the justice system that has taken shape in the Special Tribunals, Comrade Mario Mejia cited a recent headline which appeared in the newspaper LA PRENSA in which, without any logical relationship to the text of the article, it was stated that 7,750 Somozan defendants would be tried in those courts this year.

"The headline in that newspaper is malicious. First of all, because we here in the Tribunals cannot specify a concrete number of defendants that we shall have to try. We did not quote that figure officially or unofficially, for one simple reason: Not all the prisoners who are under the protection of our prison system will be dealt with in these courts. Many of them have been released without having come to us; and, as the investigation procedures improve, it is likely that many others will have to be released without even making their statement based on inquiry in the Special Tribunals.

"Furthermore, we have never said that the special judicial plan which went into effect at the end of December 1979 would be terminated this year. What we have stated is that the plan will be completed within a period of less than 2 years.

"And it should be noted here that the development of the justice system is directly related to unforeseen matters which are related to the development of the revolutionary process itself. So, we have the experience that the counterrevolutionary action, seriously distracting from the activity of the revolution, has delayed the progress of the judicial plan.

"Therefore, we maintain that if the conditions under which we have been working are geared to the requirements of the plan, the defendants will be tried within the period that we have mentioned."

Comrade Mejia Alvarez concluded by giving assurance that, "In any event, the special judicial procedure, by virtue of the experience that we have gained during these past months of work, has had all its gears oiled, and is progressing apace with the deadlines which we set for ourselves at the outset."

2909  
CSO: 3010

GROWING INTERVENTIONIST DESIRE AMONG U.S. POPULACE NOTED

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Oct 80 p 2

[Text] Managua--The public opinion polls in the United States indicate that, at the present time, a greater number of Americans consider themselves "internationalist" according to a news bulletin from Washington issued by the United States International Communications Agency (formerly USIA).

According to the bulletin, the percentage of Americans describing themselves as "isolationist" has declined considerably since the mid-1970's.

According to the agency, the "internationalism" that has increased noticeably in the United States is expressed by the Americans' desire to have their country play "a more important and powerful guiding function," since the majority of gringos believe that "the United States' influence in the world has waned."

In an attempt to distort the term "internationalist," which is a revolutionary political position expressing the class solidarity of workers regardless of their nationality, the agency uses this adjective to conceal the interventionist positions voiced by the Americans who were polled.

The true essence of the "internationalism" reported by the agency becomes evident when it states that the poll revealed that public support "on behalf of United States international participation in both military and nonmilitary areas" has increased, as has the view that the United States Government "should take the opinions of its main allies into consideration."

What is clear from the poll is that there is an increased desire for interimperialist or intercapitalist cooperation to oppress peoples which has become instilled in the Americans owing to the bombardment of warmongering propaganda claiming that the United States has a right to intervene in any part of the world "to defend its vital rights."

2909

CSO: 3010

POLICE ASK CITIZENS TO TURN IN FIREARMS

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 11 Oct 80 p 5

[Text] Yesterday, Comrade Alejandro Diaz, from the Sandinist Police Office of Licenses and Permits, issued a summons for the surrender of firearms.

The appeal is directed toward the citizens who have firearms in their possession which should be turned over to that office of the Sandinist Police without fear.

The firearms which should not be in anyone's possession are: M-16, Galil and Garand rifles, Madsen submachineguns, M-52's and FAL submachineguns.

Comrade Diaz explained that this is being done inasmuch as the period of time given to turn in weapons will soon expire, and if they are not surrendered and are being held by any citizen without permission to have them, there will be heavy penalties according to law.

He also said that the Police Office of Licenses and Permits is granting permits for short-barreled weapons such as pistols and revolvers of any type, and long-barreled weapons such as shotguns and carbines used for guarding or hunting.

He also explained that no one with firearms should be afraid to turn them in, because they will not be investigated, since it is realized that our people recovered many weapons. However, it is a revolutionary obligation to surrender them.

The measure of the Sandinist Police is in keeping with the regulations issued by our Government of National Reconstruction Junta.

2909

CSO: 3010

DENATIONALIZATION OF COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA URGED

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Oct 80 p 2

[Commentary by Pedro Chamorro: "The Forgotten Decree"]

[Text] The Government Junta, which is so active in issuing decrees, has perhaps forgotten one of vital importance to the development of genuine democracy in Nicaragua.

It involves the "nationalization of the news media," which formerly belonged to the Somozans and which now "belong" to the Sandinist Front, in what is called the "Sandinist Communication System."

These media, including two television channels, a newspaper and several radio stations ("The Voice of Nicaragua" included) have not been nationalized, nor have we seen them purchased from the state; but rather in the exclusive service of a political party which has a particular ideology not shared by all the Nicaraguan people. As a result, since our revolution is preeminently pluralistic in its political, social and ideological composition, it is only natural that those media cease to be an illegal monopoly of that party which, as engineer Robelo aptly put it, "is not the owner of the revolution."

It should be recalled that, after a request for the establishment of a new television channel made by the well-known radio entrepreneur, Fabio Gadea Mantilla, there was a public pledge that SS-TV would be nationalized by virtue of a decree which seems to have been forgotten now.

It is time for these partisan media to cease being such, and to become part of a National Communication System that is not in the exclusive service of a particular ideological movement and that renders its services to the entire political spectrum, in a test of pluralism which has yet to be discerned in this irreversible process.

In the past, television was saturated with commercial advertising; now it is a medium for political indoctrination with which the viewers are being swamped.

Radio has only changed its descriptive adjectives, but is still continuing with a rather inadvisable and unprofessional vocabulary.

Objectivity has been lost entirely, because every news item, at every minute, has a particular political objective, which serves as a guide in its preparation.

And for the media that are not aligned with this system of news manipulation, there are Decrees 511 and 512, and the insults, daily threats and prefabricated programs of questions and answers, and an entire system which should be serving a loftier purpose than that of attacking its fellow journalists.

NICARAGUA

CITIZENS SIGN PETITION AGAINST SCHOOL-TO-WORK PROGRAM

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Sep 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The following communication addressed to the minister of education, Dr Carlos Tunnermann, protesting against the School-to-Work Program, a copy of which has been sent to LA PRENSA, is supported by 18 pages filled with the signatures of 500 residents of Jinotega:

Jinotega, 12 September 1980.

Minister of Public Education  
Dr Carlos Tunnerman  
Managua, D.N.

Dear Mr Minister:

The undersigned heads of families of the department of Jinotega, justly concerned by your statements relating to the School-to-Work Project that were published recently in the media, and without knowing the full extent of the said Project, feel compelled as Christian, revolutionary and nationalist heads of families to express to your ministry our opinion relative to the draft project emanating from your authority.

We do not doubt that, in your capacity as a former teacher and now minister, you and your advisers have thoroughly studied the project in question. We permit ourselves to recall that according to our Statute of the Rights and Guaranties of Nicaraguans, whose Article 7 says: "No one will be subjected to bondage or constrained to perform forced or obligatory labor," and to Articles 35 and 36 of the same Statute, there exists a flagrant violation of these articles in the intent issued under your authority to obligate our minor-aged children to perform coffee-picking services in the state-owned plantations. This project is a a twofold violation because, besides aiming to pressure or otherwise obligate the students, they will receive no pay for their activities, which converts them into objects of exploitation. While our revolution aims, with its regulations, to end exploitation of human beings by human beings, you, with your decree, aim at exploitation of human beings by the state.

We Nicaraguans all know as well that Nicaragua subscribed to and ratified its support of, through the First Proclamation of the National Reconstruction Government dated 18 June 1979 and in its Article 1-3 which guarantees, full effectiveness of the Human Rights stipulated in the Universal Declaration of the United Nations Organization, and of the Human Rights and Responsibilities of the Organization of American States.

According to the article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the free Republic of Nicaragua being a signatory to that declaration, any Nicaraguan can see that such a project flatly contradicts the Charter of the United Nations in respect to the cited articles.

Furthermore and coincidentally, the separation of the children from their families takes place together with the traditional spiritual feasts of the Immaculate Conception, Christmas and New Year. What is the intent of this? To uproot the traditional Christian and Catholic customs these feasts represent in the spiritual communion of our households? You must surely understand perfectly well that your decree affects a large majority of the youths who have just returned from the glorious National Literacy Crusade, which is as of now the most wonderful fruit of our revolution. These youths will not get the rest they need, if they are taken away from our households to devote themselves efficiently and responsibly to the tasks the next school year will require of them.

As heads of families, we have a right to know the future plans of this program for the coming school term, inasmuch as it is being said currently that this program is being based on the philosophy that other countries are trying to impose on us. We believe we Nicaraguans are responsible for giving our children a moral, intellectual and physical upbringing that is responsive to the needs of our own country.

To conclude, Mr Minister, we remind you that as a citizen and a minister of state, you are obligated to respect the agreements undertaken by Nicaragua. We therefore trust you will spare us having to disobey the text of your unfortunate decree by revoking it. This would avoid our exercising our rights as citizens in accordance with Article 50 of the New Statute of the Rights and Guaranties of Nicaraguans.

9399  
CSO: 3010

## NICARAGUA

### SCHOOL-TO-WORK PROGRAM DEFENDED AGAINST OPPONENTS

#### Jinotegan Mothers Set Example

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 24 Sep 80 pp 1, 5

[Text] Jinotega--The Jinotega Association of Mothers of Heroes and Martyrs issued a statement strongly supporting the School-to-Work Program, under which our youth will volunteer to work as coffee pickers.

The mothers of our martyrs oppose energetically the attitude of the women of the MDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Movement], who have stirred up a commotion and are saying that the program is an attempt against the "unity of the family and Christmas."

"It is necessary that we keep clearly in mind that the efforts that have been put into gradually creating the bases of a new society have also gradually changed our sense of awareness, which is already being reflected in the momentum being displayed by our children, and it would be egoistic for us to think of impeding the progress of their ideas toward the popular well-being," the statement says.

"We are certain," it continues, "that if our own sons were alive they would be today, as they were yesterday, in the vanguard of the work for national reconstruction. We know there are youths prepared to follow their example--an example we the parents have accepted from our sons, inasmuch as they are capable of giving it, and have proven themselves to be so."

Referring to the MDN women's response to the young Revolution's call to solidify the economy through the School-to-Work Program, it affirms that "these women who are frightened today by the possibility that their children may go pick coffee, who embarrass us as Nicaraguan women--these women should assume their true role as mothers, bringing up true patriotic children, true human beings, true children of the people. They should take their places at the head of the picking brigades, with their whole

families, and should thus show that their concern for the 'unity of the family' and of the people is real and that it goes beyond a paper concern into practice, creating new relations, new common interests that guarantee true cohesion among all members."

The example that the martyr sons bequeathed to their mothers and that their mothers have wisely endowed with greater value shines forth in the following paragraph: "Our attitude as heads of families must be more in keeping with the ideas and actions of our sons. They set the example yesterday in combat; let us set the example today in work and be the vanguard of the coffee harvest. Let us march at the head of it and show our sons that we have gotten their message. Those of us who can physically join it: off to the harvest!" [in boldface]

#### Old Regime Threatened Family

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 24 Sep 80 p 3

[Editorial: "Let Us Rebuild the Nicaraguan Family Destroyed by Capitalism"]

[Text] The Sandinist Popular Revolution has instituted profound changes in the national educational system, adapting it to the most urgent of the country's needs.

To initiate this process it had necessarily to dismantle the whole of the flawed, alienating structure that responded basically to the interests of certain of the country's social sectors and to imperialism, to which these sectors continue subordinating their interests.

The old educational system--elementary school, high school and university--had been corrupted by Somozaism to the extent to which the military dictatorship conceived of education as being of elitist nature and had become systematically permeated with values foreign to our historic specificity. The school system had been converted into the main focal point of alienation. Study programs had been mutilated and the teaching of history had become a tergiversation.

The most important step at the level of the masses has been the National Literacy Crusade and its positive results for the Nicaraguans. The other all-important step in the educational domain has been to link theory to practice, to overcome once and for all that permanent divorce that was maintained by Somozaism between education and practical living. A change of that nature could only have been brought about by our triumphant Revolution.

A new phase in the educational system of our country--the new school system has thus been happily labeled by our teaching profession--has been opened under a new concept of education, at the service of Nicaraguan

society as a whole. It seeks to give students who want it--and most of them do--practical work to perform that is closely related to their overall training. It is the start toward overcoming the contradictions that exist between manual and intellectual work, between city life and rural life.

We have plunged fully into the fundamental process of overcoming the alienations that the old bourgeois school system had imposed. A new phenomenon that had to emerge as a corollary of the Sandinist Popular Revolution. We have transformed into a reality the longstanding aspiration of the most world-renowned teachers.

It is not merely a matter of making a practical thing of education but of putting our knowledge into practice and to the test from the start of our student days, which is when we begin to groom ourselves as the future leaders of our country, an outlook that also could only have been made possible in our country as a result of a Revolution that positions man at the center of history.

As was to be expected, this new revolutionary initiative has been being steadily and systematically torpedoed by the daily LA PRENSA, twisting the truth regarding its content and perverting its aims. Dissemblingly on some occasions and openly on others, the ideologues of the reaction have argued that the clear intent of the new revolutionary state is "to break up the family," "to intervene in the parental authority of parents over their children," that this is "a manifestation of totalitarianism," etc.

However, none of this is true:

The breakup of the Nicaraguan family was produced by the old social system, in that the manner in which the outputs of production were appropriated compelled the heads of families forever to send their children to work to make day-to-day household ends meet. The Nicaraguan children who sell LA PRENSA, for example, do not do so because they are in agreement with its content, but because they need the money they earn to take home to be able to subsist.

The heads of families who abandon their homes at harvest time, leaving their families alone in the various regions of the country, do it compelled by the manner in which the productive apparatus is structured, by its seasonal nature. Harvest time is the time of greatest migration in Nicaragua. Poor families remain disarticulated. The father has to migrate from Zelaya to Chinandega, from Chontales to Leon, to earn his family's daily bread.

Family unity in the antiquated conception of LA PRENSA is measured by the closeness of the child to the parent's side. A paltry conception worthy of those who serve the interests of certain social sectors that they seek

to win over as allies by appealing to the most primitive of instincts. Manipulation by someone who has always served as a psychologist to the bourgeoisie? Perhaps.

Family unity will be truly possible only when the poor of this country--that is, the vast majority of Nicaraguans--will have assured to them their daily meal, an objective for which our Sandinist Revolution is striving when it seeks permanent solutions to the problems of food, housing, unemployment, health, education, etc.

The FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] holds as a sacred party precept that the most revolutionary sons are those who respect their parents, the most self-sacrificing, etc. But with malicious intent, LA PRENSA, in its obscure reactionary interests, has been raising a cloud of dust, wilfully confusing concepts and ends.

When in this country the problem of production and productivity will have been completely solved--two basic premises of the revolutionary government's current economic policy--then and only then will unity of the family in Nicaragua be fully guaranteed. The FSLN's insistence on finding an answer to this substantive problem in the shortest possible time is tightly linked to the Sandinist policy of consolidating the Nicaraguan family, which is now disintegrated by the seasonal character of production, by the high concentration of land, by low salaries, and, in sum, by the nefarious heritage of the old regime that willingly or unwillingly represented the interests of certain social sectors which having been removed from power are continuing to accrue wealth and to exploit the Nicaraguan family.

The rest is but a new ideological offensive by LA PRENSA, in its daily press policy of denigrating the FSLN, although it hides this policy behind sybilline language, or shamefully shields it behind religious invocations, reducing Christian doctrine to the level of its gameless interests.

Fernando Cardenal, Sandinist Youth

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 24 Sep 80 p 12

[Text] "The parents who have criticized the School-to-Work Program are surprised that children and youths should work. They are not aware that in Nicaragua children have always worked. Not their children perhaps, because they belong to a privileged group; but the children of the masses leave their studies every year to work at the harvests."

This statement was made by Fernando Cardenal when he was interviewed by BARRICADA regarding the criticisms one sector or family heads has leveled at the School-to-Work Program. He commented as follows in this respect:

"I do not know if they have ever seen how, in the cotton fields and coffee plantations, entire families with their children work at picking. In Nicaragua, children and youths of the popular masses have always interrupted their studies to go to work.

"The Ministry of Education's project has genuine value from the educational standpoint. I believe that more so than through a classroom lesson--as the National Literacy Crusade proved--the new Nicaraguan will be educated through these day-to-day living contacts with the sectors that have been the most exploited, this contact with reality; the profound experiences of the Crusade will become a principal element in the new Nicaraguan's education.

"We must bear in mind," said the companero, "that in the development of character, in the acquisition of an individual's noblest values, working not only for monetary gain but for the cause of a people is an enriching element in a youth's personality."

#### Speaking of Christianity

Cardenal added that "more can hardly be done for the Christian upbringing, for the Christian attitudes, of youths than to accustom them to feel for others, than to lead them into attitudes of support for the noble causes of the poor, into identifying with the poor."

"I believe," he said, "that from the Christian viewpoint, learning that our idol, our aim, must never be money nor personal gain, but rather working to help others--and in that sense, this project--is of the utmost importance to a true Christian and humanitarian education.

"Here, they are trying to instrumentalize the Christian faith; Christianity is being used as a weapon by the self-serving bourgeois sectors, as a weapon against the Revolution, against those changes that adversely affect their privileges. The true Christian should welcome any project that benefits others, especially if the others are the poorer.

"To me it is significant that persons who in the past have never been interested in Christianity are those who now speak of Christianity as the answer to everything. Clearly, they are using it as a weapon. Their Christianity is not borne in their hearts but rather in their pockets, in their desire to protect their economic interests. All of us have a right to our political beliefs; but we should defend them politically. It is dishonest to use the Christian faith as a sword against the Revolution and worse yet in defense of class privileges," said the companero.

#### Program Does Not Affect Christmas

Companero Octavio Rivas, assistant to the minister of education, for his part, said that Christmas will not be affected by the School-to-Work Program, inasmuch as it ends on 20 December. He also clarified that participation in the program will be entirely voluntary.

Rivas also pointed out that it is not the Ministry of Education that will stipulate the work to be performed, but rather the students, professors and heads of families who will propose their own vacation jobs.

#### Sandinist Youth Backs Program

Companera Patricia Elvir, of Sandinist Youth, indicated that her organization considers it fundamental that the education of all youths include participation in productive work; the more so since this is a Revolution that among other things must resolve the problems of an economic revitalization.

She emphasized that there are sectors that do not understand that there is a Revolution here with profound changes, and that one of these changes is that youths should participate in productive work.

The companera concluded saying, "This School-to-Work Program is going to vastly strengthen the quality of our youth and bring highly important social benefits, above all insofar as concerns the revitalization."

9399

CSO: 3010

## LAWS PASSED TO REGULATE HOUSING, PROTECT MILITIAS

### Housing for All

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Oct 80 p 14

[Text] The spirit of the Housing Regulation Law passed yesterday by the State Council is that never again can anyone be evicted from his home, much less be exploited by the dealers in housing needs.

The law is primarily intended to protect the majorities, those who in their desperate search for a roof under which they could live, in the past fell victim to the exploiters who sold "lots" and houses in "parcels" at criminal prices.

In this respect, we would do well to recall that the exploitation involving the so-called "clandestine" parcels in the past is a Somozan practice which must be eradicated.

### Sectors Which Do Not Discern Effectiveness in the Law

Not because of naivete, much less ignorance, arguments were raised within the Council aimed at hampering the revolutionary state's effort to insure housing.

Since the law will regulate all housing purchased through adjudication, state financing or that involved in the illegal parceling, but passing laws with a single policy that will stabilize the household of every Nicaraguan worker, the representative from COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise], Jaime Bengoechea, made a motion that the state should legislate on the basis of the three types of housing because, he claimed, "there is housing built with private effort, that financed by the state and that financed in a mixed fashion (state-private)."

In this regard, it befits us to note that Article 5 of the law stipulates that "housing will be for the exclusive, personal use of the individual to which it is awarded and his family; it may not be subjected to leasing, use, habitation or in any other manner."

But Article 8 of the law provides that "the owner or purchaser of the real estate may, through a request giving grounds, make a transaction with the state." This means that, when there are individuals who must leave their dwellings for reasons of force majeure (change of job from one region to another, diplomatic travel, etc.) they are quite free to assign their dwellings to another person, through a prior arrangement with the state.

What is the purpose of this? The revolutionary state will prevent, with the Regulation Law, the repetition of dual purchase of housing on the part of a few persons, as was done in the past; because it is inconceivable that someone have two or four dwellings while there are thousands of Nicaraguans who are living under improper conditions.

### Salaries for Militiamen

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Oct 80 pp 1, 14

[Text] The Government of National Reconstruction will guarantee the militia members who perform tasks relating to national defense, mobilized by the Ministry of Defense, their salaries, jobs and the future of their families, in the event that they are killed in combat.

Such is the spirit of a bill passed yesterday by the State Council which, considering the various manifestations of the counterrevolution in Nicaragua and the state's inability to maintain a large-sized modern army, has opted for a voluntary reserve army comprised of the Sandinist Popular Militias.

The importance of this law was challenged (it was called petty bickering by Comrade Mercedes Mejia, councilwoman of the AMNLAE) by the delegates from the private sector, who maintained that payment for the support of the militia members would run counter to their interests. "We shall destabilize ourselves, and that would be unpatriotic," said council member Pedro Cuadra, from the Chamber of Construction.

This prompted a heated discussion which reflected the framework within which the class interests represented in the State Council move, and which ended with the Council's decision to turn the pay for the militia members over to the central government.

The first article in the law states that, when the members of the Sandinist Popular Militias are mobilized to perform military tasks by the Ministry of Defense, the days which they do not work for this reason will be paid for by the companies, which will later be reimbursed by the state with payments made directly to their payroll.

This will apply to both companies in the private sector and mixed and state-owned companies.

Article 3 also clearly stipulates that the militia members will not only retain their salaries, but also their jobs and social benefits to which they are entitled by law.

The law establishes that, if they are replaced and, upon their return, the removal of the one who replaced them proves rather complicated for reasons of production, they will be placed in another position at the same or a larger salary. The time for that reinstatement will be paid for by the company, following the same procedure.

But this was the result of several hours of discussion in the State Council. Not only were the most variegated proposals heard, but also the most diverse sentiments.

### It Began With Provocation

Jorge Rojas, who read a minority opinion in the State Council, charged that if a general consensus was not reached, it was because Alvaro Jerez came to the members of the commission studying it with provocation.

Not only did he request the Ministry of Defense to reveal a large number of military secrets, but in the end he did not sign it (Omar Hallum, his alternate on the Council, explained that, even though he did not sign it, Jerez was an adherent of the bill).

Comdr Carlos Nunez intervened to state that the procedure established by the commission was a negative one, because not only had it delayed a decision on this important matter, but disturbing elements had been introduced as well.

He claimed that Alvaro Jerez attempted to destroy the bill when he made "petitions" such as the ones cited.

Carlos Salgado, from the CGT(1) [General Labor Confederation] remarked that the bill was incomplete, because it did not provide for a series of situations related to the benefits for the militiaman-worker who was risking his life in combat.

In response to that, Comrade Federico Lopez suggested the passage of the bill as it had been submitted, and that the Council's Labor and Social Security Commission later engage in devising a new bill calling for such benefits and providing for such situations. This motion was the one which eventually prevailed.

When Jorge Rojas introduced an amendment calling for the employer to be the one who directly pays for the support and financing of the militiaman-worker, the discussion began.

### We Shall Fail

Reinaldo Hernandez, delegate from the Chamber of Commerce, said that the employers could not be burdened with supporting the militia members, because their business firms would fail. He said that he realized it was a patriotic duty and a civic duty to cooperate with national defense, but that if a high percentage of the employees of a business firm were mobilized that would necessitate replacing that personnel, and the expense would be doubled.

He added that, if that is done, the business firms will fail, noting: "They run the risk of going out of existence because of the additional costs."

It was Hernandez who suggested that a state fund be set up to pay the militia members because national defense "should be charged to everyone."

### It Is Fair for Them To Contribute Something

Estanislao Montiel, delegate from ATC [Agricultural Workers Association], said that, just as the militia members risk their lives for national defense, it was fair for "the gentlemen from private enterprise to contribute something to that."

Jaime Bengoechea described the financing of the Popular Militias as a special war tax.

Bengoechea was another of those who said that their business firms would fail if the bourgeoisie financed national defense. Bengoechea remarked: "It is impossible to pay the militia platoons and the new employees; we shall simply go bankrupt."

Federico Lopez, delegate from FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front], declared that the delegates from private enterprise were wrong in thinking that the militia members were hired soldiers, and that, in any event, the business owners would be contributing aid and not a salary, because they were not professional soldiers.

Pedro Cuadra, from the Chamber of Construction, described the entire allegation concerning the militias made by the delegates from the popular organizations as an illusion, and called for the creation of a tax for the militias.

Comdr Hugo Torres expressed surprise at everything that was happening, and said that it was "spiritual poverty" on the part of those whose petty interests interfered with the payment of the militias.

Mercedes Mejia, criticizing the position of the delegates to the State Council, angrily said: "This petty bickering proves the truth about those who have always claimed to be a hope for Nicaragua."

2909

CSO: 3010

MIPLAN WORRIED OVER LABOR INEFFICIENCY, ECONOMIC FAILURES

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Oct 80 p 10

[Text] We have received the following news dispatches from MIPLAN [Ministry of Planning]:

Although, from the production standpoint, the first half year of Plan 80 had successful results, there was a decline from the standpoint of the "quality" of the work done, in other words, in the workers' "productivity." This drop in productivity occurred mainly in the areas wherein the wages were established on the basis of the number of hours worked, rather than the work accomplished.

This situation is due to several reasons. On the one hand, the fact that we have not yet achieved efficient work organization, and, on the other hand, it is almost a law of history that productivity drops during the period of transition from an old society to a new one. Under the Somoza regime, the worker was compelled to work owing to the exploitation to which he was subjected, which had the support of a repressive regime.

At present, the worker no longer feels coerced by a possible repression, and hence his pressure to work has been reduced. What is proposed now is to replace those negative stimuli with positive stimuli and new values, which will prompt the worker to work actively and diligently, knowing that he is no longer doing so only to earn a wage, but also to build a better fatherland for everyone. This is part of the new collective consciousness that we patriotic Nicaraguans must acquire, as part of our integration with the revolutionary process.

The productivity was also affected by problems related to the supply of raw materials and spare parts for machinery.

There is still an unjust distribution of income in the country. There are workers earning very high wages in comparison with others who earn extremely low wages.

To give an idea of the seriousness of this situation, we can note that nearly 75 percent of the workers insured by the INSS [National Institute of Social Security] earn wages under 2,000 cordobas, while another 60 percent earn less than 1,500 cordobas per month.

However, the nation's economic situation does not allow for the enactment of an indiscriminate policy of wage hikes, as the revolutionary government would like.

If this were done, there would be an inflation which would affect the workers' income in particular. It would be creating the illusion of a raise which would not bring any real benefit with the higher cost of living that would occur.

The social wage (that is, the benefits in the areas of health, education, housing, etc.) is being given a great impetus by the Sandinist revolution. In this regard, we can cite the literacy campaign, the Ministry of Health's preventive medicine drives, the oral rehydration units, the various laws on tenancy, the ongoing process of building new hospitals, the assistance programs of the Ministry of Social Welfare, the concern for and measures enacted to improve working conditions in factories and on farms, etc.

#### In the Investment Sector

Problems have cropped up in the use of external funds that have been obtained (loans from international organizations), because we have lacked sufficient ability to submit the documents which those organizations require for providing the funds. This has caused the state, while the studies, etc. were being made, to supply the funds which should have been received from abroad. We are spending our hard currency on financing that should have been done with foreign funds.

This will cause the goals in the investment sector not to be met, although the situation (in this sector) has improved during the past few months, and a recovery is already occurring which, however, will not be sufficient to attain the goals.

#### In the Financial Sector

In order to bring about a rapid reactivation of production, an expansion occurred in credit which was not controlled in a rational manner. Part of that financing was diverted to nonproductive uses, and another part was allocated for imports of unnecessary products. To cite an example: 10 million cordobas were spent on chewing gum imports.

This problem is now being dealt with through measures aimed at curbing imports of nonbasic consumer products, and through stricter control of the orientation and destination of loans.

The increase in imports of basic grains and consumer goods from Central America caused a deficit in our trade balance. The imports from the area were disproportionate to our exports.

The growth of the state, as part of the reorganization of the country's public administration, was greater than anticipated. This caused an increase in state spending (current charges), which affected the greater utilization of the tax revenue collected.

However, it must be said that the state's revenue was larger than in the past. With the measures for freezing wages and vacancies in the government, it is expected that this situation will improve, allowing what is collected in the form of taxes to be used to finance internal investments in productive areas.

Directorate of Press and Propaganda, Ministry of Planning.

2909

CSO: 3010

## POLITICAL MANIPULATION OF RELIGION CRITICIZED

### FSLN Communique Countered

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Oct 80 p 2

[Editorial: "The FSLN Communique on Religion"]

[Text] The National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) has issued an Official Communique in which it defines in clear and precise terms its position as a political movement regarding the Christian faith of the majority of Nicaraguans.

BARRICADA has lent a polemic tone to the communique, giving it an eight-column headline: Faith Is Manipulated To Create Political Reaction. We do not understand the distrustful motives for this headline, but we would like to state the following: LA PRENSA's efforts in terms of the Christian religion have been aimed precisely at opposing such manipulation, under whatever banner or label. Faith should not be subjected to the service of political power, nor should it be used as a banner of opposition.

The communique is clear in this respect, and confirms this position.

Christian faith, which raised the consciousness of our people, was a basic factor in our liberation process. Moreover, the Church (as a hierarchy and as the people of God) has witnessed this process and has expressed its support at the most important and decisive moments (it is sufficient to note the Pastoral Letter and the support for the literacy campaign).

At no time has "faith been manipulated to create a political reaction;" quite the contrary: there has been an admirable commitment to participating in any situation that required Christian support. What gave rise to the suspicions and misunderstandings reflected in the BARRICADA headline is the firmness of the faith that still remains among the simple people who have not allowed politics and faith to become confused, or let their Christian principles be replaced by a different ideology.

Parallel with this profound popular conviction, what we at LA PRENSA have tried to affirm is the integral revolutionary nature of Christianity--which covers a much broader world, both natural and supernatural, than any other ideology created by the human mind--not to deny Christianity's contribution to the construction of the new Nicaragua, but just the opposite: to define it and free it from the misconceptions that belittle its immense contribution to man and his liberation.

As for the rest, we welcome clear ideas!

## LA PRENSA Accused

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Oct 80 p 3

[Editorial: "Reactionary Forces Disarmed"]

[Text] If we can give LA PRENSA credit for anything, it is for having jumped to a conclusion when we stated that in our country there are sectors that manipulate faith to cause a political reaction against the FSLN. Its conclusion, without our having referred to that publication at any moment, is evidence that a partial confession is proof enough.

However, it does not admit that at any time it has written about religious topics with a view to manipulating our people. But someone who practices manipulation systematically every day could not leave religion to one side and refrain from leading people to believe that the FSLN is threatening the religious faith of our people.

Now that our vanguard has put into words what it has been putting into practice throughout its historic struggle, we see that the FSLN has respect for religious faith not just because of a simple political alliance, but because of the distinguished and outstanding participation by Christians in the liberation process, and now in reconstruction.

Those who have tried to convert religion into the linchpin of their campaign to discredit the FSLN, knowing of its respect for the traditional faith of our people, maliciously argue that if it behaves that way today, it will not do so tomorrow. This has always been the attitude of the LA PRENSA ideologues. Given that they can find no arguments in the present for attacking our revolution, they assure us, like the new oracles, that the future will be different.

But we would like to stress that the manipulation of religion by LA PRENSA has been constant, systematic and malicious.

It has been constant, because every day there are diatribes against our leaders, arguing that they are attacking religion. A series of statements and positions of the government have been distorted, with regard to publicity about Christmas, the School-to-Work program, etc. Libelous statements have been made, and the revolutionary government has been made to look like the enemy of Christian traditions.

That is manipulation.

It has been systematic, in that religion has become the central theme of the war of attrition against the FSLN. The worst thing about its excesses is that LA PRENSA has taken on the role of judge and interpreter. One of its ideologues stated in a debate with other Christian sectors that the FSLN should leave religion alone, implying that it was attacking religion, which is not true.

That is manipulation.

The FSLN has confirmed its profound respect for the religious traditions and celebrations of Nicaraguans. The Marian celebrations and Christmas festivities, since the triumph of the revolution, have been celebrated by our leaders. What is more, the true Christian meaning of these traditions has been revived. The vice and commercialism of the past have been attacked.

What worries LA PRENSA is the growing participation of Christians in the revolution, because their attitude merely confirms that there are all kinds among God's flock.

There are Christians who follow the Gospel, just as there are those who use it to attack the revolutionary process. Unfortunately, this is what the people who write on those topics for LA PRENSA refuse to recognize.

8926

CSO: 3010

LATIN AMERICAN CLERICS' SEMINAR HAILS FSLN ON RELIGION

Letter to Arce

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Oct 80 p 9

[Text] Managua, 10 October 1980

Comrade Bayardo Arce Castano  
Coordinator, Political Committee of FSLN National Directorate

Comrade Arce:

It is with great interest that the priests of several Latin American countries who are attending the Third Seminar on the Brotherhood of Priests, have received and read the document put out by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) concerning religion.

We appreciate your kind letter of 7 October, accompanying the text of the document.

Such a document was necessary to clarify positions which for many reasons (not all of them pure) led our people to have suspicions and worries about the future of their deep religious feelings in the Revolution.

We would like to express our conviction that the demands of our service to the people will intensify our search for truth and justice.

In our faith, we understand that the process which has led the poor to free themselves from poverty and exploitation is a sign of the Kingdom of God, and that the teachings of the Gospel commit us to that liberation.

We reiterate our appreciation to you, and enclose herewith the text of the message that we, as pastors, are sending to our ecclesiastic communities.

On behalf of the Nicaraguan Clerical Association and the Conference of Priests, we remain fraternally yours,

Guillermo Quitanilla, President of the AGLN  
Edwin Maradiaga, CONFER Director, Public Relations Department

## Letter to National Directorate

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Oct 80 p 9

[Text] FSLN National Directorate, Secretariat  
Fte. Casa Juan de Dios Munoz  
Managua

Latin American priests from 17 countries, gathered at the Third Seminar on the Brotherhood of Priests to study spiritual and pastoral issues in revolutionary times, send their greetings to the FSLN National Directorate, indicating that the assembly has received the FSLN document on religion with great interest.

We believe that this document opens up new roads for the Christians of Nicaragua whose faith allows them to participate in the revolutionary process. It also invites us to strengthen our commitment, and to take fruitful action to benefit the poor people of Latin America who are struggling for freedom.

Third Seminar on the Brotherhood of Priests

### Priests Give Opinions

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Oct 80 pp 1, 5

[Text] The historic document of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), which defines its position on religion, had a noteworthy impact on the 115 priests from Latin American countries who are participating in the Seminar on the Brotherhood of Priests.

Spokesmen indicated this morning to BARRICADA that although the document is not on the priests' agenda, spontaneously "the hope was raised that the FSLN statement will help clarify the positions that will strengthen the unity of the people and Church of Nicaragua, to the benefit of the increasing liberation of the poor."

### Priests' Opinions

The following are the opinions of some priests who participated in the Seminar on the Brotherhood of Priests, regarding the FSLN's historic document.

Father Jesus Garcia, representing Mexico: "Christianity is not just a cult, nor primarily a cult; it is a vision of life which must intervene in the historic process of humanity. The FSLN, in this regard, has reaffirmed a universal truth."

Concerning the vanguard's assertion that a believer can also be a revolutionary, he commented: "Christianity has meant a revelation of God's plan for humanity, and that Christians of good faith have agreed to make it a reality in history. In that sense, religion can be a necessary vehicle of Christianity, but often the vehicle has dominated the message; and when that happens there is alienation."

"But to the extent that the message is put into practice at historic moments, revolutionary potential predominates."

### Division of Church Is Encouraged

"What has pleased me," said Father Garcia, "is the clarification of the internal problems of the Nicaraguan Church, and the fact that internal solutions are encouraged.

"It is not that the Sandinist Front is really encouraging the division of the Nicaraguan Church, because that division exists all over the world, due to the transitional period humanity is experiencing, which is shared and felt by all Christians.

"The reason for this is the rediscovery of Christians' role at the side of the poor and oppressed, since the Vatican Council, Medellin and Puebla.

"Respect for traditions, as set forth in the Front's document, guarantees a future tradition free from mercantilist usurpation, which under the pretext of folklore slowed down the process of purifying positive values."

### Great Opportunity

Father Alejandro Vasquez, of Panama, stated: "I see in this document a great opportunity for the people of Nicaragua, because it encourages a serious attitude toward what the Sandinist Front proposes to do.

"The religious feeling of the people is practically being reevaluated. Faith causes us to commit ourselves to man, in whom we see the presence of God--the marginal man, the dispossessed man--and thus we seek to commit ourselves to his liberation."

Regarding the integration of Christian revolutionaries in the process, he indicated: "When the Sandinist Front decides to integrate priests in the process, it does so because it considers them qualified to undertake the reconstruction mission that the people of Nicaragua need.

"The purging of mercantilist and political motivations from our traditions is something we Christians are fighting for in Latin America. Religion has served as a trampoline for the exploitation of the people, by means of drunken spree, parties, etc.

"Exclusively religious acts cannot be used as a trampoline for some politician who, by making statements in favor of religion, takes advantage of a procession and tries to win over people by creating a generous image. That is an adulteration of the people's faith."

### FSLN Departs From Dogma

Father Uriel Molina remarked: "With this document the Sandinist Front makes it clear that it is not linked with orthodox Marxism, which maintains that religion is the opiate of the masses.

"The FSLN affirms in this document that also through religion can Christians attain maturity, identifying themselves with the poor, the deprived, the little followers of Christ."

8926

CFO: 3010

## NICARAGUA

### GOVERNMENT URGED TO PRACTICE AUSTERITY, EXPLAIN SPENDING

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Oct 80 p 2

[Commentary by Pedro Chamorro]

[Text] There is a great deal of talk about austerity now, because it is no secret to anyone that the economy is not working well, and that since the triumph of the revolution, public spending has grown in an astronomical way, comparable only to the growth of the state bureaucracy.

Yet the goals for our economic recovery have still not been met and almost the only strong advances have been in nonproductive areas, in things such as walls, house remodeling, mansions, rehabilitation of clubs; millions have been spent on signs and political posters, and much more on official propaganda, plazas, and other things that do not produce a greater supply of goods.

It is hard to decide what is good and what is bad because now no explanations are given to the people of the spending that is going on and its tangible results. This silence and lack of economic information is counterproductive now that we have an honest government, but one which, like anyone, can make mistakes and is subject to the taxpayers' criticism. Now it is time for the state enterprises to publish their balance sheets, just as the government ministries should do, including the ministries of the interior and defense, which absorb the greatest proportion of the government budget.

It is an obligation to inform the people how their money is being spent, whether the money is in the form of loans, donations, or tax collections.

How much is spent and how is it justified? This is information that should be at the fingertips of all the Nicaraguan people. Only then can it be said that there is full communication between the ordinary citizen and his representatives.

Many millions have been spent on new vehicles, and practically all the new vehicles coming into Nicaragua are destined for the biggest consumer: the state. And many of these new vehicles have been destroyed through the lack of responsibility or lack of skill of the drivers. It is an everyday sight to see drivers of the people's vehicles setting a bad example. They should be penalized more severely than the ordinary citizen, because what they are destroying is not their own property, and they are setting the people a bad example.

BARRICADA, which is the "official organ of the people," representing the vanguard, should constantly publish how our nation's scarce resources are being invested.

Austerity, yes, but austerity practiced together, and an austerity preached by example and not by words! Superfluous spending, no! Investments in productive elements, yes!

If a "strait jacket" is going to be used, then I think we should begin by publishing an account of our public finances so that the people can thus take part in evaluating their administrators.

Today more than ever before, now that the elections have been postponed until 1985 for the sake of national reconstruction and the unity that is needed, it is essential that we all take an interest in our nation's good economic operation, that we restrain our budgets, that we begin to consider the cost of trips, walls, political posters, and the immense partisan propaganda signs that have invaded our cities and highways. It is the obligation of the governors to render accounts to the governed, and the right of the governed to ask for these accounts.

7679

CSO: 3010

## NICARAGUA

### FSLN'S ATTEMPTS TO RESTRICT FREEDOM OF PRESS CRITICIZED

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Oct 80 p 2

[Commentary by Pedro Chamorro]

[Text] As time goes by, the limits of the "unrestricted freedom of the press" guaranteed by the fundamental charter of the state are becoming narrower and narrower.

A point may come when we will have to go back to publishing only "Social Notes" because we can't publish anything other than the "official communiques" released by the invariably optimistic spokesmen and press officials of our state agencies. Possibly then even social news may be banned.

Then the time will come when all the papers will be the same, because the fundamental news will say exactly the same thing; the only thing different will be the name of the paper, or perhaps its format and the size of the headlines. But in essence, everything will be part of the same "Sandinist System of Communication and Political Indoctrination," to be used to line up the disaligned and to enroll the aligned as members of the masses.

Perhaps the laws designed to do this may be applied very quickly to LA PRENSA, as Commander Ortega said: nothing new, nothing original.

But to avoid this troublesome situation, I believe it would be better, once and for all, to issue a new decree explaining just what can be published, since, as we know very well, here in Nicaragua, almost anything can fall into the subjective interpretation of what is "a counterrevolutionary act or publication." Everything depends, then, on the personality, education, and even the mental attitude of the interpreter of this hackneyed word.

Depending on the susceptibility of some people, a "counterrevolutionary act" could be a "crooked look" or a public employee who does not attend a "mass" demonstration.

And the concept of "constructive criticism" has remained undefined, hazy, in the imagination of some commanders, since only they understand its meaning and know its application.

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CSO: 3010

## NICARAGUA

### ALARM EXPRESSED AT INCREASE OF FOREIGNERS IN KEY POSITIONS

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Oct 80 p 2

[Commentary by Auxiliadora Guerrero]

[Text] When I reached the age of reason I began to realize that in our country foreigners were the ones who received the best opportunities, the best treatment, the best salaries, but then this came to seem logical under the Somozist dictatorship, since at that time there was no order or honesty, and least of all, people's rights; the rights of the Nicaraguan people were trampled on by any foreigner.

I also remembered then the saying that "no one is a prophet in his own land," and even though I rebelled at this, there was no other alternative but to watch how we Nicaraguans only got the jobs that foreigners didn't want. When traveling to other countries, I tried to take advantage of this saying, but I found out that it was only valid in Nicaragua.

In Mexico, it is "Mexico for the Mexicans," in Spain "Spain for the Spaniards," etc. This means that a foreigner cannot even compete, much less displace a citizen of those countries.

With the triumph of the revolution, I had a great illusion: Nicaragua was finally going to be "Nicaragua for the Nicaraguans." With the nationalism of Sandino as a banner, no foreigner would any longer be a prophet in our land.

But this illusion did not last very long. I began to see how people were being replaced in some state organizations; they were not replaced by more highly skilled Nicaraguans, but by foreigners with the professional title of "internationalists," but who had no professional training for the jobs they held. Colombians, Chileans, Ecuadoreans, not to mention Cubans, began to fill job vacancies and to get the top salaries. The gringo

military instructor was replaced by a Cuban instructor, the Nicaraguan had to submit job applications to Colombian, Ecuadorean, or even Cuban personnel officers (INRA [National Institute for Agrarian Reform], INCINE, INTURISMO, to mention just a few). A foreigner decides whether to hire a Nicaraguan.

Once again the "poor Nicaraguan" has let his rights fall into the hands of foreigners. That is why I want to call on all true Nicaraguans to assert the nationalism of Sandino, and to truly make "Nicaragua for the Nicaraguans" become a reality.

7679

CSO: 3010

# HAAKMAT INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC LEGAL STATE OF AFFAIRS

Amsterdam ELSEVIERS WEEKBLAD in Dutch 13 Sep 80 p 11

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister Andre Haakmat by Johan van den Bossche: "Many of my Friends Succumbed to the Temptation."]

[Text] Only a few months ago Andre Haakmat was himself a Dutchman but he is now no longer a friend of The Netherlands. It happened after the February coup of the sergeants, when he began a kind of wholesale business in ministerial posts. An important man therefore. ELSEVIERS WEEKBLAD talked with him.

A few weeks after the Suriname February revolution became a fact and Henk Chin A Sen presented his cabinet he suddenly surfaced in Suriname after 20 years in The Netherlands. Andre Haakmat, formerly inspector of education in Amsterdam, was then still a Dutchman of Surinamese origin and a bosom friend of the new prime minister. In great haste he was naturalized and appointed as adviser of the prime minister, and a few months later he was running a wholesale business in ministerial posts, including the ministries of Justice, Army and Police, Foreign Affairs, and the post of deputy prime minister.

A centipede therefore, but one with intelligence and ambition, and moreover, generally accepted as his friend Chin A Sen's inspiring genius. He is believed to be the brain behind the 13 August coup (with the knowledge of Commander-in-Chief Bouterse and Prime Minister Chin A Sen); he was certainly the man who encouraged the prime minister to try to talk Minister De Koning into accepting inflation protection of the Dutch development assistance of 2.7 billion guilders. Even though Chin A Sen now persistently claims that a letter written by Van Agt gave him the idea, which is certainly remarkable because the Dutch prime minister does not mention protection against inflation at all in that letter.

Two months later Deputy Prime Minister Haakmat is forced to grudgingly accept the fact that The Netherlands is not yet about to give in on this point. But he is no longer a friend of The Netherlands. It shows in the way he talks about a unilateral visa arrangement.

He calls this Dutch measure stupid, but, at the same time, he calls Dutch anxiety about violations of human rights exaggerated. He believes that Surinamese situations should not be remedied with Dutch solutions.

## Tribunals

ELSEVIERS WEEKBLAD: The Surinamese judiciary has a good reputation. Why should members of the old regime then appear before tribunals?

Hankmat: We do not call them tribunals but special judicial committees. We have of course known all along that there was deep seated corruption under the prior government. However, this type of case should actually be split in two categories. In the first place, cases which can be dealt with in accordance with ordinary judicial procedures will be handled by ordinary courts. However, there are also exceedingly serious cases which are not punishable by law. The latter will be judged by special judiciary committees. We are here dealing with manipulations of persons who would have been declared not guilty by ordinary courts. It should be understood that different political circumstances are involved fit only for a special judiciary committee. The Dutch penal code is still in force in Suriname but it is not compatible with our society. We feel therefore that there is no need to apply it. After all, you in The Netherlands are not using the Chinese penal code.

[Question] Should not somebody who has done wrong but cannot be legally punished be dismissed?

[Answer] We are exactly of the opposite opinion. It concerns moral and ethical crimes. The Netherlands also punishes such crimes: through disciplinary committees. Look, a physician can kill somebody, he must then appear in court. He can also be responsible for somebody's death as the result of chaotic work. That will be the responsibility of a disciplinary committee. Our special judiciary committees should be viewed in this sense."

[Question] In that case it should first be established what moral and ethical crimes are.

[Answer] It concerns actions which every Surinamese person finds impermissible. One just cannot allow corruption to exist.

[Question] Are the members of these tribunals lawyers?

[Answer] The president and his deputy are lawyers. One-half of the other members consists of military persons, the balance of ordinary citizens. They do not have to be lawyers, but they happen to be all lawyers in the first committee.

[Question] What types of punishment can the tribunal impose?

[Answer] Fines, taking away the right to vote and to be elected, confiscation of possessions, compensation, and prison terms.

[Question] But only fines have been claimed?

[Answer] That was the legislation of the prior minister, Reeder. I proposed new legislation: the maximum punishment is 30 years in prison.

However, moral and ethical crimes must naturally be proven, although we have simplified the rules. If, for instance, a comma appears to have been applied in the wrong spot there will be no dismissal. Nobody would understand that in Suriname.

[Question] Why should there be military members in the tribunals?

[Answer] We govern this country together with the military. That is the reason. On the other hand, they never asked for membership in the judiciary committees.

[Question] Perhaps you do not trust the Surinamese judiciary. It let Arron off the hook a couple of times. It is said that he cannot be legally convicted.

[Answer] Initially the military surrendered the arrested persons to the normal channels of justice. We have tried that therefore. But the old practices appeared to rear their heads again. People like ex-minister Brahim and Ewald Karamath Ali managed to flee. I consider this a case of serious neglect of the interests of the Surinamese community. We must fight that, and do all we can to succeed.

You have no idea of the level of corruption over here. Somebody who did not function in the system had no future in Surinam. It explains why so many Surinamese went to The Netherlands.

[Question] Arron's guilt is therefore a foregone conclusion. He was the prime minister of a cabinet which did nothing against corruption.

[Answer] During Arron's tenure 380 million guilders in extra income from bauxite disappeared. I do not say that Arron enriched himself. However, the money is gone; no country would take that.

[Question] But the funds were entered in detail in the ledgers of the Ministry of Finance.

[Answer] Arron sat in a little room to write down where the money could possibly have gone. Well, the calculations he came up with amounted to nothing. We are not dealing with 25 guilders. The Netherlands would have contributed another 300 million guilders in additional development assistance if Suriname itself had also contributed 300 million guilders. Just imagine the damage the Arron government did to the Surinamese.

[Question] Arron is facing an impossible task because during the remodeling process of the Ministry of Finance a portion of the files got lost.

[Answer] The previous government always got rid of incriminating material. When the military police raided ex-minister Achmed Karamath Ali's house his wife was just burning currency worth 50,000 guilders.

Succumbed

[Question] Why have you been living in The Netherlands for 20 years? With your education could not you get a job in Suriname?

[Answer] The system kept me 20 years out of Suriname. If I had wanted to work there I would have been forced to participate in the corruption. Many of my friends succumbed to the temptation. Many of them are now also in prison. Even a number of my friends with whom I made plans to forcefully end the old regime. When some of them returned to Suriname I warned them. I said: "Please stay in The Netherlands. Better to suffer the cold here than to cooperate with that regime. The hope that the regime could be toppled became smaller all the time. We tried everything to obtain arms, but always to no avail."

[Question] Ferrier was not corrupt; he was deposed nevertheless.

[Answer] Ferrier resigned as president. I believe that, consciously or unconsciously, he intended to reinstate the old way of doing things. Clearly he wanted to end his career as the man who restored parliamentary democracy in Suriname. He wanted to present the budget to the Parliament which had been rendered powerless, but in this manner the old order of things would, in one stroke, have resumed its role again. When Chin A Sen heard this he informed the army, which talked with Ferrier. In the following manner: "We ask you to resign to solve this conflict." He did so.

[Question] Wouldn't it be nice to try to restore parliamentary democracy?

[Answer] We all want to return to it. We hope to reach that moment in 2 years. Parliament will not return if the planned renovations have then not yet been accomplished. Re-establishing the NSB [National Socialist Movement] would also be unthinkable in The Netherlands.

[Question] Did Sital really intend to stage a counter coup?

[Answer] I am convinced of that. One of our men penetrated his group. Right now the size of the conspiracy is the only important thing to us. We know that some neighboring countries supported the coup; yes, a Caribbean country.

[Question] Here, one coup seems to follow the next. First it was Ormskerk, now it is Sital.

[Answer] Ormskerk's coup was ultrarightist; Sital's ultraleftist. Therefore, theoretically we have had everything.

#### Small Army

[Question] People have the impression that you are fast in labeling something a coup. It is a fact that Ormskerk did not have a small army of 300 men to back him up.

[Answer] We have never said that. We were only prepared to deal with it. But Ormskerk was cooking something up. We caught one of his female couriers and she confessed everything. Ormskerk completely misjudged the situation. He trained many of the persons who interrogated him and he thought he could overrule them. That was a bad mistake because they thought that they would have to fight his little army. To find out about the size and location of that small army as soon as possible

Ormskerk was indeed harshly treated. He did not want to reveal a thing. It can be said that if Ormskerk had only admitted that there was no small army he would still have been alive today. That is how I see it.

[Question] And the cause of death?

[Answer] There is actually no clarity on this point. Probably exhaustion. There was a fight when he was led to his cell. He died the next day.

[Question] Why is there no coroner's report yet? Ormskerk died months ago.

[Answer] There is indeed such a report.

[Question] But not at the Dutch embassy. The Dutch government demanded that it be delivered this very week.

[Answer] Well that will then be taken care of, I guess.

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